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Japan

Reportage on Gulf, Peace Force Issues Continues

Kaifu Views Multinational Troops

OW1910170690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1553 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 19 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told parliament Friday that legislation to create a United Nations Peace Cooperation Corps would allow Japanese Self-Defense Forces personnel to assist the multinational forces deployed in Saudi Arabia.

The Kaifu cabinet, pressed for its reasoning on how the proposed peace corps could back up the multinational forces, issued a position paper saying the multinational forces are effectively implementing U.N. resolutions concerning the Persian Gulf crisis.

The Japan Socialist Party (JSP), the leading opposition party, earlier rejected the government proposal on the grounds that the multinational troops have not been authorized by the United Nations.

The proposed U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill says Japan will establish the peace corps to provide adequate and swift assistance to "U.N. peacekeeping and other activities" which are performed in line with U.N. resolutions. Japan Socialist Party Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi, speaking to the House of Representatives Budget Committee, pressed the government to specify the "other activities."

In response, government officials said the activities of the multinational forces in the Gulf region fall into that category.

Yamaguchi then pointed to a remark by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar that the dispatch of U.S. troops is a separate matter from U.N. resolutions condemning Iraq for its August 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Yamaguchi also said the United States sent the troops upon a request from Saudi Arabia and this was not based on any U.N. resolution. He questioned whether Japan would provide assistance in line with U.N. resolutions as stipulated in the proposed bill.

"If we can assist the U.S.-led multilateral forces even though they are not authorized by any resolution, than anything goes," Yamaguchi said.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, representing the government, issued the position paper saying the multinational forces have performed a role in making the U.N. resolutions effective. The position paper stated the multinational troops stationed in Saudi Arabia are helping to secure the effective implementation of the U.N. resolutions and therefore meet the criteria set out in the bill.

Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) Secretary General Takashi Yonezawa urged Kaifu to amend the bill to give parliament a final say in decisions on dispatching the peace corps, instead of the prime minister as presently stated. Kaifu agreed to consider the request. The DSP has expressed support for the bill.

The House of Councillors will hold a session of its Budget Committee on Monday to discuss the bill. Later next week, the House of Representatives' special committee will begin discussions of the proposed legislation.

Nakayama To Explain to Envoys

OW1910184990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1406 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 19 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minster Taro Nakayama said Friday he will be ready to explain the UN Peace Cooperation Bill to Tokyo-based ambassadors from neighboring Asian nations but only after it is enacted into law. Nakayama, however, said the Japanese Government has no plan to send special missions to neighboring Asian nations to explain the measure.

Nakayama made the comments on a nationally televised political talk show. He was talking about reports that Asian countries, which experienced Japan's military invasion, are concerned about the proposed bill, which would allow the dispatch abroad of noncombat personnel from the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to assist in international peacekeeping activities.

The foreign minister said Philippines Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus told him that Manila will welcome the Japanese move if the proposed peacekeeping activities are limited to what is required by the United Nations.

Chinese Foreign Minster Qian Qichen, with whom Nakayama met in New York last month during the UN General Assembly session, urged Japan to be prudent in enacting the bill, he said.

Political leaders and masses in Asia, including those of South Korea, China, the Philippines, and Singapore, have expressed concern over the bill, noting the possibility that Japan may soon send troops overseas.

The Korean peninsula and Taiwan were under Japan's colonial rule before and during before World War II, while Japan established a puppet state of Manchuria in northeastern China. Japan's armed forces advanced to the Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Indochina, and Myanmar [Burma] during the war.

The secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, Ichiro Ozawa, told the program that, "I am convinced that Asian neighbors are sure to understand" the nature of the Japanese bill if Japan can explain that its peace activities abroad are tied to UN resolutions.

"That's the point of the bill. It clearly stipulates that Japanese action will not take place only by Japan's judgment and those nations will surely understand," Ozawa said.

Asian 'Understanding' Sought

OW2210091990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0508 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 22 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Monday Japan should seek the understanding of its Asian neighbors of its plan to set up a peace corps that would be seconded to the United Nations.

He said he is aware that other Asian nations have voiced concerns about a government-proposed bill to create the group, to be called the United Nations peace cooperation corps, and are carefully watching Diet discussions on it. The proposed group would include members of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) in a noncombatant role.

Nakayama, responding in the House of Councillors Budget Committee to questions by Osamu Yatabe, a Japan Socialist Party (JSP) member of the upper house, said Japan should fully explain to leaders of other Asian nations that the proposed peace team will help international peacekeeping activities based on United Nations resolutions.

Some Asian nations, especially South Korea and China, which were victims of Japanese aggression before and during World War II, have expressed deep concern over the possibility of Japan sending SDF personnel abroad.

In response to the same question, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said he fully understands the Asian nations' concerns but dismissed criticism at home and abroad that Japan aims at becoming a military power.

Kaifu reiterated that the members of the proposed U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps will never threaten anyone with military force or use it.

Sango Sato, also a JSP member, criticized the government over the 2 billion dollars Japan has pledged toward the costs of keeping the multinational forces massed in the Persian Gulf region, saying the money amounted to military assistance and the decision to provide it was not based on U.N. resolutions.

Nakayama replied that Japan is giving financial assistance to the multinational forces to enforce the U.N.-sanctioned economic embargo against Iraq and to force it out of Kuwait.

Shunji Yanai, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Treaties Bureau, said the U.N. resolutions do not specify what kind of measures each member nation of the world body should take to implement the resolutions, adding Japan decided its contribution measures to help resolve the Gulf crisis using its own judgment.

Japan has pledged to provide another 2 billion dollars in economic aid for the frontline nations hit hard by the international economic sanctions against Iraq.

Asked about concrete measures to seek peaceful settlement of the Gulf crisis sparked by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2, Kaifu said Tokyo is ready to rebuild relations with Baghdad if the Iraqi Government resolves the current crisis.

Komeito Opposes SDF Dispatch

OW2010082890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0759 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 KYODO—Komeito, Japan's No. 2 opposition party, called Saturday for Japan to make a nonmilitary contribution to U.N. peacekeeping activities by dispatching unarmed personnel, and providing money and technological help.

A draft of the party's action policy for 1991 said the overseas dispatch of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) troops would be unconstitutional. Japan should not send the SDF overseas because it could lead to the use of force, it said.

Japan's war-renouncing Constitution bans the threat or use of force as a means of settling international disputes.

Komeito opposes the government-proposed U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill, which would pave the way for the overseas dispatch of noncombat SDF personnel to the Persian Gulf or other areas to assist activities backed by the U.N.

As for defense in general, the party said Japan should adopt a "spider's web" policy, arming itself solely with defensive weapons to respond to outside aggression.

It would be difficult for Komeito to form an opposition coalition with the Japan Socialist Party [JSP] and Democratic Socialist Party because the JSP has not changed its policy on the Japan-U.S. security treaty or the SDF, the party policy said.

Komeito is backed by the lay Buddhist organization Soka Gakkai.

Ambulances To Be Sent to Gulf

OW2010063090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0606 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 KYODO—Twenty ambulances and 40,000 headphone stereos will be sent to the Persian Gulf as part of Japan's contribution to solving the crisis in that area, government officials said Saturday.

Japan Airlines and Nippon Cargo Airlines will each provide one charter flight. The supplies will be sent to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on October 29 and November 5, according to the officials.

Japanese airlines and shipping companies promised the government in August to help transport supplies to the area. The companies have been waiting for the United States to request specific supplies, but there has been no request so far.

The government decided on its own to send the supplies to launch its plans to provide transportation assistance in the Gulf, the officials said.

The ambulances will be delivered to the government of Saudi Arabia, while the headphone stereos are likely to be distributed to soldiers in the multinational forces arrayed against Iraq in the Gulf area, the officials added.

Kaifu Defines Weapons Limits

OW2210135290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1244 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo Oct. 22 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Monday stressed there are limits on the sort of weapons the proposed United Nations Cooperation Corps can carry if sent abroad.

Kaifu was defending the government-submitted U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill, at the House of Councillors budget committee against opposition claims there would be no limit to the weapons the proposed corps could carry.

The bill says corps members may carry small firearms only for self-defense. The government interpretation is that corps personnel can carry pistols, and in the case of SDF [Self-Defense Forces] supply ships, they can use machine-guns or rifles.

Japan Socialist Party (JSP) upper house member Osamu Yatabe pointed out the lack of a clear-cut definition of the arms. He said this could lead to eventual deployment of SDF combat personnel.

Though admitting to not being specific in the bill in stipulating the type of arms the corps can carry, Kaifu said there are limits, saying the bill itself does not approve the use of arms and limits the corps to peacekeeping activities linked to United Nations resolutions.

Asked by Yatabe if the corps will fight back if attacked, Kaifu said the bill does not envisage dispatching personnel to areas of overseas conflict and that they are not able to fight back because they carry only small firearms.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama told the session that areas to which the corps can be dispatched can be changed if there is a danger of being attacked.

The centrist Komeito's Akinori Mineyama alleged the bill's stipulation that the prime minister, who is the director of the corps, can ask the Defense Agency chief to supply the required personnel virtually opens the way for the sending of any SDF weapons and troops overseas.

The government side reiterated that the general aim of the corps is peace-related activities and that orders given to the corps would all be directed at achieving this aim. Mineyama demanded specific examples of commands given to the SDF be clearly stipulated in the bill.

On the 1954 House of Councillors' resolution banning SDF's overseas dispatch, Kaifu said it did not prohibit dispatch abroad for noncombat peacekeeping activities.

Kaifu said the resolution, adopted at the time of the SDF's creation, only refers to "troops' dispatch abroad," for the purpose of military action. The prime minister, speaking at the upper house budget committee, was refuting JSP's Sango Sato who argued the bill will go against the 1954 resolution and therefore cannot be allowed.

Kaifu told the committee that at the time of that resolution, the end of the Cold War and Japan's possible part in U.N. peace activities could not have been imagined.

Sato argued that Kaifu is abusing his right as executive head of the nation by changing the interpretation of the legislature's resolution, which he said is effective "perpetually."

At that point, the JSP lawmaker demanded the upper house to confirm and clarify its own interpretation of the resolution. After over two hours of deliberation, upper house President Yoshihiko Tsuchiya agreed to work to issue the interpretation.

Fourth Freed Businessman Arrives

OW2010063190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0518 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref., Oct. 20 KYODO—The last of four Japanese businessmen released by Iraq for health reasons Thursday returned home via Singapore on Saturday.

Hiroyuki Iwase, 36, a Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. employee from Nagasaki, arrived in Kuwait for a thermal power plant construction project shortly before Iraq invaded that country August 2. He was held as a "human shield" at a strategic location in Basra. Some 30 other Japanese are still detained there, he said.

Iwase was released because of heart trouble. The three other businessmen returned home Friday.

JSP's Doi Leads Demonstration

OW2110103090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0951 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 21 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party Chairwoman Takako Doi led an estimated 23,000 antiwar protesters in a peaceful march on the United States Forces Japan Headquarters at Yokota Air Base Sunday.

Commemorating international antiwar day, Doi and the demonstrators protested efforts by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] to send Japanese Self-Defense Forces to the Persian Gulf to join a U.S.-led multinational force assembled there to enforce United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

Blessed with splendid fall weather, the 23,000 protesters, including some who brought along children, joined hands to form a "human ring" enclosing the U.S. military installation in Fussa in Tokyo's western outskirts to protest military intervention in the Middle East, organizers said.

Doi, challenging the LDP-sponsored U.N. peace cooperation bill in the debate raging in the Diet, told protesters Sunday, "the American military in Saudi Arabia is not a corps sent there by a United Nations resolution. American forces are deployed everywhere and this law is one that says the SDF will cooperate there."

"We must oppose this effort to send the SDF overseas under the attractive name of peace," said Doi, who also said the August invasion and annexation of Kuwait by Iraq was unforgivable but demanded that Japan seek diplomatic and peaceful solutions to the Gulf crisis.

She added that the source of trust in the government by the Japanese people is the belief that it will not lead them down the path to war. Doi asked the gathering to "crush the law that would send forces overseas."

Meanwhile, Japan Communist Party Chairman Tetsuzo Fuwa told some 15,000 demonstrators assembled at Meiji Park in central Tokyo the cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu is "the worst cabinet in postwar history" for attempting to "impose on the people by sending SDF forces overseas."

Calling on the people's unity to rebuff the LDP's efforts, Fuwa called the U.N. cooperation proposal "a bill that is barbarous, illegal and tramples on the Constitution."

In Osaka, about 300 demonstrators gathered in Utsubo Park for another rally protesting the peace cooperation bill as well as plans for the emperor's upcoming enthronement ceremonies and Shinto-based daijosai ritual.

Official Denies Bush Raised Kajiyama Remark

OW2010074290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0713 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 (KYODO)—A Foreign Ministry official denied Saturday that U.S. President George Bush raised the issue of Justice Minister Seiroku Kajiyama's derogatory remarks against black Americans during Bush's meeting with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu in New York last month.

Yukio Okamoto, director of the First North America Division of the North American Affairs Bureau, said Bush did not discuss the issue at the summit talks on September 29, calling White House Spokesman Marlin Fitzwater mistaken. Fitzwater told reporters Friday that Bush discussed the matter with Kaifu in the "strongest terms" and expressed concern about it.

The Japanese Embassy in Washington has urged the U.S. Government to correct Fitzwater's remarks, Okamoto said.

Okamoto also denied Fitzwater's statement that the U.S. State Department has criticized Kajiyama's remarks. However, the State Department said in a statement September 24: "We have only seen press reports quoting alleged statements by the Japanese justice minister and we do not have a transcript of his remarks. However, racial stereotyping of any kind is always deplorable and regrettable. Such remarks are offensive to the American people."

Kadena Base Employees To Launch Sit-In Protest

OW2110043590 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 21 Oct 90 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] Okinawa City—The U.S. Air Force informed the Koza Labor Management Office on 5 October that 17 employees of the Security Guards hired at the Kadena Base on the basis of the Master Labor Contract (MLC) would be transferred to other posts beginning 1 November. Concerning this issue, the Air Force Chapter of the All-Japan Garrison Forces Labor Union (with Kiyoshi Tamaki as chairman) [AJGFLU] held the "Rally To Demand Withdrawal of Plans to Reduce Number of Japanese Guards and To Transfer Job Posts" in front of Gate Two of the Kadena Air Base located at Uechi in Okinawa City on the evening of 16 October, and adopted a resolution.

Misao Kamiyama, chairman of the executive committee of the regional headquarters; Masao Arime, chairman of the Central Regional Labor Unions Federation; and Chairman Tamaki, as well as approximately 150 labor union members attended the rally. Facing the gate, they shouted that "it is an improper action to transfer 17 employees to other posts because it will lead to an actual personnel cut."

Concerning the current notification, the Kadena Air Force Garrison Command authorities cited the following reasons: (1) the budget cuts for the garrison company; and (2) the outcome of the manpower survey and structural reform of the Air Force. The AJGFLU Air Force Chapter strongly opposed the decision in the following terms: "The decision has nothing to do with the return or reduction of the Kadena Air Base; it is a personnel cut aimed at the inexpensive maintenance of the base which is to be accomplished at the unilateral expense of the MLC employees. Therefore, the decision can never be accepted."

The chapter also submitted a request for a "complete withdrawal" to the Prefectural Government on 15 October. They have also scheduled a sit-in protest beginning at 0800 hours on 24 October.

Matsushita, U.S. Subsidiary Develop Workstation

OW1910002090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1408 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Osaka, Oct. 18 KYODO—Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. announced Thursday that it has developed two 64-bit desktop workstations—the world's first of their kind—jointly with its U.S. subsidiary, Solbourne Computer Inc. of Longmont, Colorado. Efficient cost performance is the primary feature of the two models, company officials said.

Both the Solbourne SPARC S3000 workstation and Solbourne SPARC S4000 workstation, use the same "revolutionary" new microprocessor, the officials said.

The microprocessor (MN10501)—a 64-bit type—was developed and designed jointly by Matsushita and Solbourne, based on Sun Microsystems Inc.'s SPARC (scarable processor architecture) specifications. The MN10501, of the reduced instructions set computer (RISC) type, features rapid speed processing.

Officials said the new small central processing unit performs a number of functions, resulting in the use of fewer parts and increased reliability and serviceability. This has made it possible for the workstations to be made almost as compact as a personal computer as well as cut costs, they said.

Solbourne S3000 is a compact desktop model with a plasma display. It is intended for use by software engineers in Japan and will be manufactured in the United States. This model will go on sale next February under the Solbourne brand for 1.98 million yen.

Solbourne S4000 is a higher-speed, higher-function model, suited for engineering and simulation. It will be manufactured in the U.S. This model comes in both black and white and other colors and will go on sale in the U.S. in December, and in Japan next February under the Solbourne brand. It will be priced at 1.86-2.29 million yen.

Taiwanese Athletes Try Landing on Disputed Land

OW2210093490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0846 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 22 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto said Monday it was "regrettable" that two Taiwanese fishing boats attempted to land Sunday on the disputed Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea.

According to reports Sunday from Taipei via Hong Kong, the boats carrying a host of Taiwanese athletes, officials, and reporters tried to land on Uotsurishima, one of five islands located 150 kilometers northeast of Taiwan, and plant an Olympic torch as a symbol of Taipei's sovereignty over the islands. The ships were forced away by patrol boats from Japan's Maritime Safety Agency (MSA).

Sakamoto told a press conference Monday, "the Senkaku Islands are the inherent territory of our nation and the action of Taiwan is regrettable. Japan has managed (the islands) by the appropriate application of related laws and ordinances."

Sakamoto added that Japan will soon ask Taiwan to prevent such an incident from occurring again through the Japanese Interchange Association in Taipei, a Japanese representative body there in the absence of diplomatic relations.

Japan controls the group of five islets and three reefs known in China as Daioyutai. The islands are uninhabited, but are claimed also by China and Taiwan.

A Japanese group built a beacon in 1978 on Uotsurishima and filed an application with the MSA for approval to use the beacon as an official lighthouse last summer. The agency is studying the application. A group of Chinese residents in Hong Kong staged a demonstration there Monday protesting against such moves in Japan.

Vessels Leave 'Peacefully'

OW2110163790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1528 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Hong Kong, Oct. 21 KYODO—Patrol boats from Japan's Maritime Safety Agency on Sunday prevented two Taiwanese fishing boats with Taiwanese athletes aboard from approaching disputed islands in the East China Sea, according to reports reaching Hong Kong from Taipei.

Japan controls the group of five islets and three reefs known in Japan as the Senkaku Islands and in China as Diaoyutai. The islands are uninhabited, but are also claimed by China and Taiwan.

The reports said a group of Taiwanese, including local officials and reporters, tried to land on Uotsurishima, one of the five islands, located 150 kilometers northeast of Taiwan, to plant an Olympic torch as a symbol of Taipei's sovereignty over the islands. The torch was to be used for the scheduled Taiwan area sports games, the reports said.

A Japanese right-wing group built a beacon in 1978 on Uotsurishima and filed an application with Japan's Maritime Safety Agency for approval of the beacon as an official lighthouse last summer. The agency is expected to authorize it for use in securing safe navigation of ships.

A civic group in Hong Kong recently staged a demonstration against such moves in Japan and several Hong Kong newspapers carried editorials calling for protecting sovereignty over the islands.

According to Japanese agency officials, their patrol boats found the Taiwanese ships entering the nation's territorial waters about 22 kilometers west of the Senkaku Islands around 2 P.M.

The officials said the two vessels left peacefully three hours after patrol boats warned them through loudspeakers and banners written in Chinese. Some 10 agency ships and helicopters had been assigned to patrol waters around the islands, they said.

Government To File Protest

OW2210070090 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakamoto, in a news conference this morning, touched on the incident in which a Taiwan fishing boat flying a Taiwan flag attempted on 21 October to land on Uotsurijima in the Senkaku island chain, located southwest of Okinawa. He said that the Senkaku Islands are inherent territory of Japan and that the government will file a protest with the Taiwan side in the near future.

A Taiwan fishing boat flying a Taiwan flag tried to land at Uotsurijima of the Senkaku Islands on the afternoon of 21 October, but a patrol boat of the Japanese Maritime Safety Agency used force to turn back the fishing boat.

In this regard, Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakamoto said: The Senkaku Islands are Japan's inherent territory, and it is regrettable that the Taiwan boat tried to land there. The government properly dealt with the incident in accordance with the relevant laws. In the near future, we will file a protest with the Taiwan side through the exchange association, which is a contact channel between Japan and Taiwan, and ask them not to repeat the incident.

Banks To Set Up Finance Company in Shanghai

OW2110052790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0454 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 21 KYODO—Sanwa Bank will set up an international finance company in Shanghai, China, jointly with two Chinese banks and a Hong Kong bank. The move signifies a resumption of financial cooperation with China by the Japanese banking industry, industry sources said.

An agreement on the joint venture will be signed in the Chinese city on Wednesday, according to Sanwa officials. Besides Sanwa, the banks involved are the Bank of China, the Communications Bank of China, and Hong Kong's Bank of East Asia.

Japanese commercial banks' financial support for China had been lackluster in the wake of the Chinese Government's June 4, 1989, crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square.

The new firm will be capitalized at 10 million U.S. dollars, with the four banks putting up 25 percent each, Sanwa officials said. It will make and guarantee foreign currency-denominated loans to local and foreign businesses operating in and around Shanghai.

The Chinese Government is planning to foster Shanghai into a major international financial center. The establishment of the joint finance company is in response to China's request, according to Sanwa Bank officials.

Banking industry sources say Sino-Japanese relations are improving rapidly in both official and private financial areas, noting the Bank of Japan and the Federation of Bankers Associations of Japan will dispatch missions to China this month and next month, respectively.

Oil-Drilling Company Established With Soviets

OW1910232790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1442 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Yokohama, Oct. 19 KYODO—Jeuro Container Transport has created a joint oil drilling and lumbering company in the western Siberian city of Nijnevartovsk, the Yokohama-based international freight forwarder said Friday.

The joint firm, named Jevart, is the Tyumen oilfield's second joint drilling firm with a foreign enterprise, following a similar venture with a Canadian company, Jeuro officials said.

Jevart is capitalized at 6.5 million rubles, of which 59.5 percent is provided by the Nijnevartovsk Oil Gas Production Trust, 30.5 percent by Jeuro, and 10 percent by the Soviet Railway Ministry Association. The joint firm will engage mainly in the lumbering business in the initial phase.

Jeuro officials said that two to three of the 23 undeveloped oil sites in Tyumen Province will be chosen for drilling. The time to start oil drilling has yet to be determined. The officials said the expected initial output would be 400,000 to 1 million tons of crude per year.

Jeuro is a pioneer in the transportation of goods to Europe and Iran via the Trans-Siberian Railway from the Far East, mainly Japan.

Firm To Hold Talks on Sakhalin Oil Exploration

OW2210062490 Tokyo NHK General Televion Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Sakhalin Oil Exploration Company, which includes Japan Oil Corporation and other companies, will go into final negotiations with the Soviet Union on a schedule of resuming exploration of oil and natural gas fields on Sakhalin in 1992 and going into oil and gas production in 1996.

There was a basic agreement between Japan and the Soviet Union on the exploration of the continental shelf of Sakhalin Island in February 1972, but the project has since been suspended as economically unfeasible. The new move is based on the judgment that Japan-USSR relations are improving, following Soviet President Gorbachev's decision to visit Japan, and that needs to import oil from areas other than the Middle East are rising as a result of the Gulf crisis.

The two countries, after arriving at the basic agreement, conducted surveys of oilfields in Sakhalin in an effort to locate oil intermittently for several years from 1975, succeeding in confirming two potential oilfields in (Odokto) and (Zaiho).

Now, Japan has decided to take up the matter of exploring the fields at a meeting of the Japan-USSR Economic Committee, to be held in Tokyo in January next year. It will propose resuming exploration in 1992 and beginning production in 1996.

If negotiations prove successful, the Japanese company will borrow from the Japan Export and Import Bank a fund of $1 billion, which is half the total of $2 billion expected to be required for the exploration project. The company wants to begin with the oil field in (Zaiho).

Seoul Office Opened for High-Speed Railway Bid

OW2010032790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0308 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 KYODO—A consortium of Japanese companies has recently opened its liaison offices in Seoul and Tokyo to bid for the contract to build a high-speed South Korean railway between Seoul and the southeast port of Pusan by 1998, according to industry sources.

The consortium plans to complete the papers for its proposal on the project by the end of this month, which will be submitted to the Korean National Railroad before the deadline in late January, the sources said.

The South Korean Government is expected to select a partner for the railway project next June after studying bids from Japan, France, and Germany. The project will cost about 5.8 trillion won (about 1,025 billion yen) both for construction and train carriages. Construction work is expected to start next August, the sources said.

The Japanese consortium consists of the Japan Railway Technical Service and 17 companies, including Marubeni Corp., Mitsubishi Corp., Toshiba Corp., Hitachi Ltd., and Nippon Sharyo Ltd.

The group sent a 10-member study mission to Seoul on October 11-12, which was also joined by experts from the Japan Railway Construction Public Corporation, East Japan Railway Co. and Central Japan Railway Co.

The Japanese consortium's rivals are France's Train a Grande Vitesse (TGV) and Germany's Inter City Express (ICE), the sources said.

The planned high-speed train will link Seoul with Pusan at a maximum speed of 300 kilometers per hour and cut the journey time from the present three hours to about one and a half hours on the 400-kilometer route, the sources said. The trains are expected to transport 530,000 passengers a day.

The Japanese group is expected to design the railway on the basis of the Japanese Shinkansen bullet train, developed by Central Japan Railway Co., for an average operating speed of 270 kilometers per hour, the sources said. The Japanese train will challenge the domestic record of a maximum 320 kilometers per hour by next spring.

The French rival TGV's high-speed train runs at 300 kilometers per hour speed and has broken the world railway speed record of 515.3 kilometers per hour in a test run.

Expecting fierce competition from the French and German rivals, the sources pointed to topographical advantages for the Japanese group. Other key issues will be technology transfer and financial assistance, the sources said.

SRV Foreign Minister Arrives in Tokyo

OW2210103590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1020 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 22 KYODO—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach arrived in Tokyo on Monday for a six-day official visit to Japan. It is the first official visit to Japan for the Vietnamese foreign minister, though he made an unofficial visit in October 1984, officials of the Foreign Ministry said.

Thach is scheduled to have talks with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, and officials of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party during his stay in Tokyo, the officials said. Thach and his Japanese counterpart Nakayama will exchange views on Cambodia, the international situation, and improvement of bilateral ties between Tokyo and Hanoi, the officials said.

The Japanese side will also sound out a resumption of economic assistance to Vietnam following improvements in Hanoi-Washington and Hanoi-Beijing relations, the officials said. Japan suspended loans to Hanoi following Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia in December 1978.

Thach earlier said in an interview with KYODO NEWS SERVICE, "Japan has promised to resume economic assistance to Vietnam after the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces (from Cambodia). Vietnam has done so. Now it is the turn of Japan to keep its word."

The Japanese side will discuss establishing a Japanese Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City, the officials said.

Securities Firms To Investigate Stock Slide

OW2010075290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0732 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 KYODO—The top four Japanese securities firms will combine forces to investigate the causes of this year's sharp decline in prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE), officials at the "big four" said Saturday.

Analysts from Nomura Securities, Daiwa Securities, Yamaichi Securities, and Nikko Securities and their research subsidiaries will meet next Wednesday [24 October] to plan an investigation of the second-sharpest decline ever in the benchmark 225-issue Nikkei Index, the officials said.

The heads of the stock trading departments of the "big four" have met repeatedly this year in an attempt to come up with suggestions for the TSE and the Ministry of Finance. However, "the structure and environment of the market have changed so much that the stock trading divisions alone do not have the resources to create a comprehensive plunge prevention plan," said Shinichi Horii, managing executive at Daiwa Securities.

The team will be looking into the effects of index-arbitrage trading and equity financing on stock prices and hopes to recommend market stabilizing policies as soon as possible in case the market starts plunging again.

Using the research of the so-called "Brady Commission" created in the United States after the worldwide "Black Monday" crash in 1987, the team will be looking into crash preventive measures such as automatic "circuit breakers," which arrest trading when the market falls too quickly. They will also consider the easing of taxes on equities and encouraging companies to increase stock dividends.

Handling of Wheat Import Program Said Wasteful

OW2010091290 Tokyo KYODO in English 0839 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 20 KYODO—The Board of Audit said Saturday the Food Agency has wasted 266 million yen because of inappropriate procedures in its wheat import program.

The Food Agency commissions trading firms to import wheat and pays them 70 percent of the value of contracts, with the balance settled upon delivery. The agency, however, also covers the gap between domestic and foreign financing rates for the remaining 30 percent of the cost of the imports.

The system was introduced in 1955 because of damage caused to imported wheat during shipment. The Board of Audit, however, said its investigation showed that such damage amounted to less than 2 percent of the total of 485,098 million yen worth of wheat imported between fiscal 1986 and 1988.

The domestic interest rate on wheat import treasury bills stood at 2.375 percent in fiscal 1988, compared with 9.125 to 12.75 percent on import financing from foreign exchange banks, and the Food Agency covers this interest rate gap.

The Food Agency said it raised the ratio of payments made to trading firms in advance from 70 percent to 90 percent in September, reducing the amount on which it subsidizes interest payments.

Police Raid Headquarters of Religious Cult

OW2210085690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0747 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 22 KYODO—Police searched the headquarters of the Aum Shinrikyo religious group and 11 of its other facilities across the nation on Monday on suspicion of irregularities associated with the construction of a training camp in Kyushu.

Police also arrested a lawyer representing the group in Tokyo and obtained arrest warrants for four other members of the controversial group on suspicion of violating the National Land Utilization Planning Law and falsely registering official documents.

The group, one of many new religious cults which have sprung up in recent years, has been a target of complaints by people living near its facilities and parents of some of its young followers for what they say are its secretive activities.

The group has also been linked to the disappearance and suspected abduction of a lawyer and his family in Yokohama in November last year. Members of the group have denied any connection with the case and police said the nationwide raids had no connection with the suspected abduction.

More than 460 police officers armed with search warrants launched the coordinated early morning search of the group's headquarters in Fujinomiya, Shizuoka Prefecture, and 11 of its facilities in Tokyo, Kumamoto, Oita, and Fukuoka Prefectures. Police officers were met with protests from members when they entered the premises, but no resistance was reported.

According to Kumamoto police, the group purchased a 5.9-hectare tract of land in Kumamoto Prefecture in May and began to construct a training center there.

The group did not report the purchase and development of the land to the governor of Kumamoto, as required by the Land Development Law, and allegedly submitted false legal documentation, Kumamoto police said. The group's lawyer, identified as Yoshinobu Aoyama, 30, was arrested at Haneda Airport in Tokyo, police said.

Yamanashi police joined the house search in connection with the falsification of a vehicle registration linked to a member of the group, police in Kofu said.

Aum Shinrikyo, founded and headed by Shoko Asahara, 35, was registered as a religious corporation by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government in August last year. The group, based in Fujinomiya, has 12 branches across the nation and two overseas facilities. Its membership is estimated at about 5,000, most of them young men and women.

Asahara, who police sources said was at the Aum Fujinomiya headquarters at the time of the Monday morning raid, gave a warning to group members about the multiple police search at a gathering in Tokyo on Sunday.

The missing lawyer, Tsutsumi Sakamoto, 34, who vanished along with his wife Satoko, 30, and son Tatsuhiko, 2, had acted as a legal consultant for a group of parents with complaints against Aum Shinrikyo. The parents had expressed concerns about the way their children had been converted to the religion.

The religious group distributed leaflets in Yokohama criticizing Sakamoto shortly after he brought up the issue on a radio program in October last year. A badge of Aum Shinrikyo was found in a room of the Sakamoto apartment after the family disappeared.

North Korea

Daily Denounces Seoul's 'Whirlwind of Crackdown'

SK2010044990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0440 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 20 (kcna)—Wholesale checkup and search is on the rampage and a large number of people of broad strata including students are whisked away in all parts of South Korea after the South Korean chief executive declared "a war on crimes."

Commenting on this frantic whirlwind of crackdown, NODONG SINMUN in a commentary today says the situation in South Korea clearly shows once again that his "declaration of war" is not intended merely to prevent robbery, theft and other crimes, but it signifies the beginning of an undisguised reactionary offensive to destroy the patriotic democratic forces of reunification which are growing in strength.

The news analyst further says:

Although the South Korean authorities are loudmouthed about "elimination of social unrest" and "establishment of law and order," it is nothing but a sophism to justify their ruthless sword-brandishing.

Recently, the people's desire for independence, democracy and reunification is running higher than ever before in South Korea.

The South Korean authorities intend to rid themselves of political uncertainty and defuse the crisis of their dictatorial "regime" now driven into a blind alley through such a ruthless crackdown operation called "crime cleanup." But it is a gross miscalculation.

If they further step up their crackdown offensive, brandishing bayonets, they will bump into stronger resistance of the people. This is well illustrated by the fact that South Korean dissidents called for countering the chief executive's "declaration of war" with "an all-out war of people" against the authorities.

The South Korean authorities must look straight at the people's mind and immediately stop their repressive rackets.

Students Denounce Seoul's 'Obstructions'

SK2010110490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 20 (KCNA)—The North side's student delegation went out to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at 11 this morning, the appointed time, to discuss the matter of the participation of students of the northern half of Korea in the autumn festival proposed by Hanyang and Kyonghui Universities and University of Foreign Studies in Seoul. But students of the South side could not come to the conference room owing to the obstructions of the South Side's authorities. In this connection the North side's student delegation made public a statement at Panmunjom today.

The repressive acts in blocking students of the South from coming out to Panmunjom once again revealed to the world the treacherous intention to create "two Koreas", not one Korea, while throwing a wet blanket over the ardent desire of the entire fellow countrymen for reunification and barring independent cooperation, exchange and travel between the North and the South, the statement said, and went on:

Condemning the anti-national act of the South Korean puppet clique in foiling once again the talks today by fascist sword-brandishing, going against the desire of the whole nation, as a treacherous criminal act against independent cooperation and exchange, dialogue and reunification, the North side's student delegation to the North-South student talks vehemently denounces it on behalf of the entire students of the northern half of Korea.

We are convinced that our fellow students in the South who are determined to devote their passionate youth on the altar of reunification and patriotism will open the road to the Panmunjom conference room at any cost, daringly resisting all injustice and repression with their fighting spirit and valor.

When the fellow students in the South who desire reunification call us, we will come to this venue of talks any time.

Southern Students Proposal for Talks Accepted

SK1810062490 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0538 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Press statement issued by the spokesman for the Korean Students Committee in Pyongyang on 18 October—read by announcer]

[Text] Upon the joyful tidings that the general students associations of Hanyang University, Kyonghui University, and Hanguk University of Foreign Studies of South Korea held a news conference, invited our university students together with overseas compatriots to their fall festival slated for the end of this month, and proposed to hold working-level talks with representatives of our students committee in Panmunjom at 1400 on 18 October to realize their invitation, all youths and students in the northern half of the Republic find themselves hardly able to hold back their excitement.

The North-South High-Level Talks are presently going on. The students in the South have invited our university students to their fall festival, when the aspirations of the fellow countrymen for reunification have grown higher than ever because of the North-South soccer game for reunification held in Pyongyang and the pan-national music festival for reunification. This is a manifestation of their warm patriotism to pool wills with us on the road for national unity, reunification, and national salvation.

If the fellow students in the North, the South, and abroad get together at the same place, share the pleasure of meeting, and pool their hearts and breaths while singing songs of reunification and dancing together, this will, no doubt, genuinely make great contributions to the road of national rapprochement and reunification.

I actively support and agree to the proposal of the students in the South for meeting with our students committee to discuss the question of the North's students participating in their fall festival.

I consider that under the realistic circumstances in which not only those in authority in the North and the South but also athletes and artists have visited the other side and have held a soccer game and a music festival, the efforts of the students in the South to meet us for a fall university student festival pose no problem whatsoever and no one can block them.

In response to the proposal of the general students associations of Hanyang University, Kyonghui University, and Hanguk University of Foreign Students for holding working-level talks in connection with the invitation of university students in the northern half, I will send a five-man delegation from the North side for working-level students talks to the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom.

As for the date of the talks, we view 1100 on 20 October as appropriate, taking the status of preparations for the talks into consideration.

We hope a series of matters on grandly holding the fall festival as a reunification festival contributing to realizing national reconciliation and unity and opening a breakthrough for national reunification will be discussed heart-to-heart at the talks, along with practical matters in connection with the participation of students in the northern half of the Republic in the fall festival.

A meeting between students in the North and the South must be realized.

The bitter past of the 10 June and the 15 August student talks, which could not help but suffer failure and twists and turns due to the splittists' oppression with bayonets, cannot be repeated.

History teaches that victory lies in the midst of struggle.

When we struggle in firm unity under the banner of reunification, the North-South student talks will be successfully held and a venue for a significant meeting between youth and students in the North and the South will be set.

All youth and students in the northern half of the Republic will make all efforts to realize a meeting between youth and students in the North and the South.

[Dated] 18 October 1990, Pyongyang

Comments on Reverend Mun Ik-wan's Release

SK2110092290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0837 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 21 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities on October 20 released Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, advisor to the "National Alliance of Democratic Movement" (Chonminnyon), who had visited Pyongyang in the spring of last year, by "suspending the execution of the sentence".

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says Rev. Mun did nothing that deserves imprisonment.

The news analyst further says:

He is an envoy of reunification who legally visited Pyongyang at an official invitation of ours and conducted public activities for the peaceful reunification of the country at a time when dialogue and contact were going on between the North and the South. His patriotic acts that accord with the desire of the entire fellow countrymen for reunification cannot be punishable by any law.

Rev. Mun should have been released long ago as he was unwarrantedly put into prison. When it called at "Chongwadae" during the first North-South high-level talks held in Seoul early in September, our delegation urged that the problem of the release of those visitors to the North should be solved properly.

It is good for national unity and reunification that the South Korean authorities, though belatedly, released Rev. Mun.

As they released him, the South Korean authorities must also set free woman student Yim Su-kyong, as well as their companions Yu Won-ho and Father Mun Kyu-hyon.

The South Korean authorities must demonstrate their willingness for national unity and reunification by immediately releasing all the messengers of reunification including coed Yim Su-kyong.

All fellow countrymen and the world conscience are following their acts.

Daily Cited on Establishing Confederal System

SK2210052590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0509 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 22 (KCNA)—As clarified once again by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song recently when he received the South side's delegation to the North-South High-Level Talks, our country must be reunified through a confederation based on one state and one nation, two systems and two governments and in a peaceful way with neither side conquering the other or being conquered, stresses NODONG SINMUN Sunday in a signed article.

It continues:

The proposal for founding a confederal state based on one state and one nation, two systems and two governments is a reasonable way to solve most fairly and at the earliest possible date the reunification question under the present condition of our country where one nation has long lived with different ideas and systems, divided into North and South.

For a long time, different ideas and social systems have existed in the North and the South of Korea and neither side would give them up. Under these circumstances, if the country is to be reunified through national unity, neither side should force its own ideology and system on the other side, absolutizing them.

As clearly specified in the proposal for founding a democratic confederal republic of Koryo, when the two regional governments in the North and the South which are based on different ideas and systems conduct their activities on the principle of co-existence under the guidance of the unified government of a confederal state in which a supreme national confederal assembly is formed with an equal number of representatives from the North and the South and an appropriate number of representatives of overseas Koreans and a confederal standing committee, a permanent organ of the afore-said assembly, is organized, there would occur no conflicts and there would be nothing to lose in ideas, systems and power. And our fellow countrymen will achieve their long-cherished desire for a reunified Korea, national independence.

The proposal for founding a confederal state based on one state and one nation, two systems and two governments is a very feasible, realistic reunification proposal.

If the South Korean authorities have any will to work for reunification, there will be no ground for them to refuse this proposal.

Our nation in the North, South and abroad will frustrate the "two Koreas" plot and build a reunified Korea without fail through the vigorous nationwide reunification movement, upholding the proposal for founding a confederal state based on one state and one nation, two systems and two governments.

Foreign Rallies Support DCRK Founding

SK2010042390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 20 (KCNA)—The reunification of Korea in accordance with the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo [DCRK] was strongly urged at rallies recently held in different countries on the occasion of the month of supporting this proposal.

The president of the French Committee To Support the Founding of the DCRK spoke at the rally held in Chatillon, France. The Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government put forward a proposal for reunifying the country on the three principles of national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—and through the foundation of the democratic confederal republic of Koryo, the speaker pointed out, and stressed: The French Government must direct attention to the settlement of the Korean question and actively work for the realisation of the proposal for founding the DCRK.

A letter to the great leader President Kim Il-song was adopted at the rally.

In his speech at the rally held in Lahore, Pakistan, the president of the Pakistan Socialist Party demanded that the South Korean authorities pull down the concrete wall and realise free travel and full-scale opening between the north and the South and the United States immediately withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea for the reunification of Korea.

The joint statement published at the rally by seven political parties and public organizations including the Pakistan Socialist Party and the Pakistan Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification calls on the world's peaceloving people to put an international pressure on the United States and the South Korean authorities to accept the proposal for founding the DCRK.

A rally was also held at the Finnish National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea.

Letters and messages to the great leader President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il were adopted at the rallies.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia sponsored a rally at the Yekatit 66 Political School. In his speech at the rally, the vice-director of the ideological department of the party Central Committee stressed that Ethiopia actively supports all the reunification proposals put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

Daily Views South Stance on Nonaggression Pact

SK2010103890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 20 (KCNA)—The proposal of our side at the second North-South High-Level Talks to adopt and announce a North-South declaration on non-aggression is a graphic manifestation of its strong enthusiasm and will, sincere stand and attitude toward solving the non-aggression question between the North and the South at any cost, says NODONG SINMUN today in a signed article.

Recalling how our side drew up and tabled a draft North-South non-aggression declaration, and its content, the author of the article says:

If the North and the South truly want to live in peace, not fighting each other, prevent a war and accelerate the peaceful reunification of the country, no one will take exception to adopting our draft declaration as the basis for discussion.

Moreover, our proposal is based on the South side's official statements on the matter of the adoption of a non-aggression declaration and the declaration contains what the South side proposed in its "draft basic agreement", while deleting the matter of withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea which the South side finds it hard to accept.

Our side laid down a compromise proposal in which it expressed the willingness to accept in principle the content of the "joint declaration for reconciliation and cooperation" made by the South side and suggested it to change the title alone into the "non-aggression declaration". But, the South side refused to accept even this proposal, contending that phraseology non-aggression itself is a point in question.

Worse still, the South side refused to agree to our compromise, asserting that the adoption of a "non-aggression declaration" is a "job outside the premier's authority" and needs to go through "necessary procedures".

Such behaviour on the part of the South side cannot be construed otherwise than an act prompted by their anti-reunification, splittist intention to freeze for ever the present state of division. Obviously it does not want to take such practical steps for the relaxation of tension and the prevention of a war as the adoption of the non-aggression declaration but to while away the time through a partial exchange and trade.

If the South Korean authorities genuinely called for disarmament and the settlement of the non-aggression problem and if they truly oppose a war and want peace, they should seriously study the draft non-aggression declaration proposed by us as promised at the talks and positively respond to the discussion of the problem at the third North-South high-level talks and thus make a bold decision to work for peace and reunification.

U.S. Urged To 'Give Up Aggressive Designs'

SK2010104690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1026 GMT 20 Oct 90

["U.S. Imperialists Must Give Up Aggressive Designs on Korea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 20 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists must give up the anti-DPRK confrontation policy and aggressive designs going against the trend of the times and immediately withdraw their aggression troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

NODONG SINMUN stresses this in a signed article today under the title "U.S. Imperialists Must Give Up Aggressive Designs on Korea."

Far from drawing proper lessons from their disgraceful defeat in the past Korean war, the U.S. imperialists have not given up their aggressive designs on Korea and are incessantly stepping up war preparations, the article notes, and continues:

They talk as if they were to "ease" their confrontation policy in connection with the changed situation in some regions and countries, but they are aggravating the situation in other areas, especially on the Korean peninsula. They regard the DPRK as the biggest obstacle in their policy of gaining control of socialism. Our Republic is strictly maintaining the socialist principles and the revolutionary position. Today, the DPRK serves as an inspiring banner for the people of the countries advocating socialism and independence, and its might and influence are growing with each passing day. In South Korea, a colony of U.S. imperialism, the people's mind is turning towards the DPRK and the anti-U.S. feelings for independence are getting stronger with the passage of time.

The U.S. imperialists are feeling uneasy at this. Therefore, they are making desperate efforts to control our Republic at any cost.

Their persistent pursuit of the policy of aggression and confrontation against the DPRK is related to the military strategic importance of the Korean peninsula.

Their strategic purpose is to aggravate the military tension on the Korean peninsula, make an excuse for aggression, conquer the whole of Korea by strength and make a breakthrough in their anti-socialist world strategy and Asia strategy. As required by this aggressive policy, they are more desperately resorting to the anti-DPRK confrontation moves.

They are opposing the U.S. troop withdrawal from South Korea and reinforcing their aggression forces there.

They use the South Korean puppet army as a shock force for the execution of their aggression policy on Korea by equipping it with uptodate U.S.-made weapons.

Meanwhile, they are increasing the combat capacity of the U.S. forces by introducing new-type planes, tanks, missiles and other combat equipment in South Korea.

In order to realise their aggressive designs on Korea, they are kicking up a war racket against the North on the ground and in the sea and the sky.

What is particularly grave is that they are trying to realise their aggressive designs on Korea by means of nuclear war.

It is an anachronistic daydream for the U.S. imperialists to try to stifle the DPRK and dominate the whole of Korea.

U.S.-ROK Military Exercises Denounced

SK2210062590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0613 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 22 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists sent formations of the Japan-based AV-8 VTOL assault planes to the sky over Kunwi, South Korea, on October 17 to stage an exercise of striking at targets of the Northern half of Korea, according to military sources.

Next day they staged a similar war game with the mobilization of formations of Japan-based A-6 assault planes.

They massively mobilized F-16 fighter-bombers belonging to the U.S. Seventh Air Force in South Korea on October 17 and 18 in a forestalling strike exercise at targets in the strategic depth of the northern half of Korea in coordination with fighter-bombers, assault planes and early warning planes belonging to the South Korean puppet Air Force. A total of over 610 planes were involved in this exercise.

The South Korean puppets on October 16 and 17 staged a parachuting exercise in the air above Sangju with the mobilization of 10 odd C-123 transport planes.

On October 17 and 18, they set in motion a large number of puppet Army troops, artillery pieces, tanks and armoured cars in an attack exercise against the North in Tongduchon and Pochon areas, letting more than 80 fighter-bombers belonging to the puppet airforce support this operational exercise.

In the new war provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets, more than 1,200 planes were mobilized in the aerial war exercises over South Korea in the October 17-18 period.

Daily Says U.S. Withdrawal 'Good' for the U.S.

SK2110092690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0841 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 21 (KCNA)—The quicker the pullout of the U.S. troops from South Korea, the better, because it accelerates the peaceful reunification of Korea that much, says NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today.

The U.S. troops' occupation of South Korea is the main obstacle to the reunification of Korea and the constant source of the danger of war in Korea, the paper points out, and goes on:

If the U.S. troops withdraw from South Korea, the basic factor of threatening peace in our country and the biggest obstacle to the independent and peaceful reunification of our country will be removed. No doubt, it will bring a decisively favourable situation for the Korean people to reunify their country independently in a peaceful way.

The quicker the U.S. troops get out of South Korea, the better peace and security in Asia and the world are ensured.

The United States has deployed its troops over 40,000 strong and 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea in an attempt to attack our republic and, furthermore, invade other countries in Asia and make a breakthrough in realising its wild ambition for world supremacy.

If a war breaks out in Korea, its flame will instantly spread over a vast region beyond the boundary of Korea.

If the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons are pulled out of South Korea, the most dangerous hotbed of a nuclear war will be removed from the globe and a new phase will be opened for preserving peace and security in Korea and the world.

The pullout of the U.S. troops from South Korea will be good for the United States itself. The united states is spending a large sum of funds for the maintenance of military bases overseas and it is further aggravating the economic crisis and increasing tax burdens upon the people. The U.S. people do not want their sons to be killed as cannon-fodder in case a war of aggression breaks out in Korea.

If the United States turns a deaf ear to the demand of our people and the world's people for the quick withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea and continue the policy of occupying South Korea, it will be under fire within and without.

Pan-National Reunification Concert Opens

SK1810102590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1011 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 18 (KCNA)—The pan-national concert for reunification, the first of its kind in the 45-year history of national division, opened today at the February 8 House of Culture in Pyongyang.

Attending the opening ceremony were Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK and minister of culture and art, Paek In-chun, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Unions of Literature and Arts of Korea, Han Si-hae, vice-chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, and other officials concerned, Yun I-sang, chairman of the preparatory committee for the pan-national concert for reunification, members of the Preparatory Committee, musicians, working people and artistes in Pyongyang.

Also present were the members of the Seoul traditional musical instrumentalist group and overseas Korean musicians who have come to Pyongyang to attend the concert, members of the visiting groups and diplomatic envoys and cultural attaches of foreign embassies in Korea.

An opening address was made by Yun I-sang and the flag of the pan-national concert for reunification was hoisted.

Vice-premier Chang Chol and delegates from different regions made congratulatory speeches.

More on Pan-National Concert

SK1810111790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 18 (KCNA)—The pan-national concert for reunification opened today at the February 8 House of Culture in the capital city of Pyongyang with a large attendance.

Present at the opening meeting were vice-premier of the Administration Council Chang Chol, Chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts of Korea Paek In-chun, Vice-Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland Han Si-hae, other officials concerned, Chairman Yun I-sang and the members of the Preparatory Committee of the pan-national concert for reunification, a delegate of the South Korean National Democratic Front in Pyongyang, and musicians as well as working people and artists in the city.

The members of the visiting groups of overseas Koreans who came to Pyongyang to participate in the concert and foreign diplomatic envoys and cultural officials here were also present.

Entering there were the Seoul traditional musical instrumentalist group, a delegation of Korean musicians in the eastern part of the United States, a delegation of Korean musicians in the western part of the United States, a delegation of musicians of the council of Korean men of national culture and art in Americas, a delegation of Korean musicians in Canada, a delegation of Korean musicians in Europe, and the Toraji art troupe in Tashkent, the Arirang song and dance troupe and the Meari musical troupe of the Kazakhstan Korean National Theatre, the Koryo art troupe in Sakhalin region, a delegation of the Korean Centre of National Culture in Khabarovsk, a delegation of Korean musicians in maritime territory, Korean musicians in Karaganda, Kazakhstan, the Soviet Union, and musicians of the Association for Promoting Korea's Reunification in Moscow and, a delegation of Korean musicians in China, a delegation of Korean musicians in Japan and the Pyongyang music troupe.

Yun I-sang made an opening address.

He said that the current pan-national concert for reunification is a great event which will bring about a signal turn in the development of the national music of Korea and the accomplishment of the cause of national reunification.

The concert, he stated, will be an occasion of seeking ways for rejoining the tradition of the severed national music and inherit and develop it in conformity with the demand of the times and the aspiration of the nation.

He stressed that all the artists participating in the concert should sing loudly songs of independence, peace and solidarity with the full display of their wisdom and talents and thus set up a new milestone on the short cut to the new morning of reunification.

Vice-Premier Chang Chol made a congratulatory speech.

He warmly congratulated Mr. Yun I-sang who initiated the pan-national concert for reunification and devoted all his energy for its success and the members of the Seoul traditional musical instrumentalist group and overseas Korean musicians who came with ardent desire and will for national reunification.

He said that the concert will mark a significant occasion in inheriting and developing the nation's excellent musical traditions in a uniform way and further stimulating the desire of the 70 million fellow countrymen to achieve the reunification of the country in the 90s at any cost and a noteworthy event in the history of the national reunification movement.

Congratulatory speeches were also made by representative of the Seoul traditional musical instrumentalist group Hwang Pyong-ki, representative of Korean musicians in Americas Kim Tong-sok, representative of Korean musicians in the Soviet Union Chu Chi-myong, head of the delegation of Korean musicians in Japan Choe Tong-ok and representative of Korean musicians in China Choe Un-pok.

Southern Musicians Perform

SK1910230290 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 19 (KCNA)—The Seoul traditional musical instrumentalist group gave a performance today at the February 8 House of Culture in the capital city of Pyongyang within the framework of the pan-national concert for reunification.

The performance was appreciated by Chang Chol, vice-premier of the DPRK Administration Council and minister of culture and art; Choe Ki-yong, chairman of the Education Commission; Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairwoman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the fatherland; Kim Won-kyun, chairman of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Korean Musicians Union; and other officials concerned, working people and artistes in Pyongyang.

The performance divided into two parts included about ten pieces of instrumental music and songs such as the Kayagum solo "Silk Way" (Kayagum by Hwang Pyong-ki and Changgo by Kim Chong-su), the Tanso solo "Chongsong Melody" (Hong Chong- chin), the Pyongan Provincial folk song "Susimga (the Melancholy Song)" (O Pok-nyo and Kim Kwang-suk) and the song in the classical style "Moon Above the Home Village" (Yun In-suk).

Most numbers performed by the musicians from Seoul were on the theme of intimate feelings and love of people and others dealt with the beauty of the motherland.

Put on stage were also "Song of Sim Chong" (O Chong-suk) and other songs of national tradition.

The audience acclaimed the performance with warm compatriotic feelings.

Concert's Second Day Highlighted

SK2110090690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0828 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 21 (KCNA)—The second-day performances of the pan-national concert for reunificaqtion were given before full houses at theatres in Pyongyang on October 20.

Put on the stage were pieces reflecting the desire for national reunification and music and dance works of diverse themes of strong national character.

The delegation of Korean musicians in Japan, the Korean musicians in Karaganda, Kazakhstan, the Soviet Union, the musicians of the Association for Promoting Korea's Reunification in Moscow and the Pyongyang musical group gave a performance at the Central Youth Hall.

In the accordion solo "Reunification Train Runs" (Yun Han-si), a female quartet "Road of Hope" (Kim Myong-suk and three others) and other numbers, the delegation of Korean musicians in Japan which consist of famous artistes represented well the firm determination and desire of the Korean nation to achieve the reunification of the country at any cost.

The mixed chorus "Let Us Reunify the Country as Beautiful as Golden Tapestry", prepared by the artistes of the troupe for the concert, presented by people's artist Om Kuk-chi and eight others left indelible impressions upon the audience by excellently delineating the ardent desire of the nation for reunification.

The vocal solo "Who plays accordion" by singer Kim In-na of the association for promoting Korea's reunification in Moscow and the vocal solo "our country as beautiful as golden tapestry" by singer An Nadezda Ivanovna of the Korean musicians in Karaganda, Kazakhstan, the Soviet Union, were also acclaimed by the audience for their successful representation of the ardent love of overseas Koreans for the motherland.

The performance at the Moranbong Theatre was given by the delegation of the Korean musicians in the western part of the United States, the delegation of the Korean musicians in the eastern part of the U.S., the delegation of the Korean musicians in Canada and the Pyongyang musical group.

They put on the stage the piano concerto "Korea Is One", the orchestra "Milyang Arirang" and piano trio "On Lake Samji at Dawn" and other musical numbers.

The cello solo "Seaside Bright With Glow" played by the siblings—cellist Yi Pang-un of the delegation of the Korean Musicians in the western part of the United States and pianist Yi Min-sop of the Pyongyang musical group—left deep impressions upon the audience.

The audience broke into warm compatriotic applause, congratulating the siblings on their emotion-charged reunion and successful performance.

In particular, Kwak Song of the delegation of the Korean musicians in the western part of the United States successfully conducted the symphony "The Sea of Blood" and Op 4 of the symphony Tchaikovsky, to be enthusiastically acclaimed by the audience.

The conductor led the audience to the musical world of the work, with his delicate and rich musical feelings and delineation talent, which was highly appreciated by the experts.

Meanwhile, Korean musicians in the North, the South and overseas performed at the Mansudae Art Theatre, the Pyongyang Grand Theatre and Ponghwa Art Theatre.

Chang Chol Sees Off South-Headed Soccer Teams

SK2010043790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0426 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 20 (KCNA)—Our side's teams for North South reunification soccer matches left Pyongyang for Seoul today by train.

The soccer teams are headed by Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the State Sports Commission and chairman of the Olympic Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and their advisers are Kim Hyong-chin, vice-chairman of the Olympic Committee; Prof. And Dr. Han In-kon, executive member of the Korean Football Association; Yu Song-chol, section chief of the Administration Council; and Yi I-nam, member of the Olympic Committee.

They were accompanied by reporters.

They were sent off at Pyongyang railway station by a large number of working people and sportsmen.

They were seen off by Vice-Premier Chang Chol, chairman of the Korean Football Association Choe Yong-hae and other officials concerned.

Official on Ties With Japan, Seoul-PRC Ties

OW1910163290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1532 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang, Oct. 19 KYODO—A high-ranking North Korean Foreign Ministry official Friday expressed hopes for an early establishment of full diplomatic relations with Japan, saying Pyongyang is ready to initiate normalization talks in November in accordance with a joint declaration issued in late September.

First Deputy Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu told a rare news conference that if Japan sincerely abides by the declaration, diplomatic ties between the two countries will be set up at an early date. Kang added that Pyongyang is prepared to accurately and swiftly realize the joint declaration issued by the Korean Workers' Party, and Japanese ruling and opposition parties.

Delegations sent to Pyongyang and headed by Shin Kanemaru, former deputy prime minister and a senior member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Vice Chairman Makoto Tanabe issued the declaration in conjunction with the Korean party urging their respective governments to start normalization talks in November.

The North Korean official said improved Japan-North Korea relations would have a positive impact on dialogue between North and South Korea. Kang, however, said the Japanese and North Korean Governments have not yet decided anything on the talks.

Referring to the clause of the declaration concerning Japanese compensation for losses suffered by North Koreans since the end of World War II, Kang said, "we believe it because the former deputy prime minister representing the ruling party pledged it." The declaration says Japan should pay compensation for North Korea's suffering not only during prewar colonial rule of the Korean peninsula but also over the 45 years since the end of World War II.

Some Japanese opposition and ruling party officials are opposed to the idea of compensating North Korea for its postwar losses.

Referring to relations between China and South Korea, Kang said it is clear that Beijing will "never" have political and diplomatic ties with Seoul. He also said China will veto any unilateral application by South Korea seeking single membership in the United Nations. U.N. membership is one of the key issues between the two Koreas.

South Korea has called for simultaneous but separate memberships for South and North Korea in the world body while North Korea has demanded a single Korean U.N. seat. South Korea's YONHAP NEWS AGENCY reported Sunday that Seoul will unilaterally apply for membership in the U.N. later this year if Pyongyang does not accept its position on the issue.

South Trade Office in China Is 'No Problem'

OW2010124290 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] NHK reporter Miyao has reported from Pyongyang that Kang Sok-chu, first deputy foreign minister of the DPRK, in a news conference with foreign reporters on 19 October, commented on South Korea's establishment of a trade office in China. Noting that there already is trade between China and South Korea, Mr. Kang said that the establishment of the office presents no problem.

He expressed his conviction that China will not establish diplomatic relations with South Korea.

Official Opposes ROK-PRC Diplomatic Ties

OW2010105690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang, Oct. 20 KYODO—North Korea opposes the establishment of diplomatic ties between South Korea and China because it will be an obstacle to unification of Korea, a senior North Korean official said Saturday. Hwang Chang-yop, of the Secretariat of the (North) Korean Workers' Party, told Japanese journalists that Pyongyang's normalization with Tokyo is different in nature from normalization between China, an ally of Pyongyang, and South Korea. The normalization of relations between China and South Korea, which adopts "two Koreas" policy, would hinder unification of the divided Korean peninsula, he said.

South Korea and China announced earlier in the day that they agreed to set up nonofficial trade offices in their respective capitals. South Korea and the Soviet Union agreed on September 30 to establish diplomatic relations. North Korea, in a major foreign policy shift, agreed in late September to open talks with Japan to establish diplomatic relations with Tokyo as early as possible.

Hwang said there is no plan for the moment to open a party congress. The last congress was held in 1980. The party must decide to hold one in a general meeting of the Central Committee long before a congress is held but there has been no dicussion at the committee on the matter, he said.

Asked whether Kim Chong-il, the eldest son and heir-apparent to President Kim Il-song, would be elected as general secretary in the next seventh party congress, Hwang replied there has been no discussion.

North Korea will be affected by changes in international situation but drastic reforms in the Soviet Union and East European countries will not exercise a substantial influence on North Korea, he said.

Yon Hyong-muk Receives Reply From Li Peng

SK2010054790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 16 Oct 90

[Text] Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the State Administration Council, received a reply message from Comrade Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council, for sending him a congratulatory message on the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the PRC.

The reply message stated that he expresses deep gratitude for sending him warm congratulations. It also said that he is sure that the traditional friendly and cooperative relations between the two peoples of China and Korea will be further strengthened and developed and that he truly hopes for better results in the premier's endeavors.

PRC Ministry Spokeswoman Cited on N-S Talks

SK2010043590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Beijing October 18 (KCNA)—At a news briefing held in Beijing October 18 the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman noted with regard to the second North-South High Level Talks that there is no change in the stand of China toward the talks.

We hope that the North and South of Korea will, through dialogue, further eradicate confrontation and finally realize peaceful reunification, she said.

U.S. Production of Stealth Bomber Assailed

SK1810104390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023 GMT 18 Oct 90

["Act Going Against Trend of the Times"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 18 (KCNA)—U.S. Congress formally decided of late to produce the "B-2 Stealth" bomber. This clearly indicates that the United States intends to rush headlong along the road of arms buildup in fiscal 1991. MINJU CHOSON today says this in a by-lined commentary.

The United States, it notes, decided to start the production of the new-type bomber that had been shelved, when the desire for peace is running higher and arms cut is under way in the international arena. This exposes once again that "peace" and "disarmament" they have loudly cried for each time an opportunity presented itself are an empty talk.

The United States is getting more feverish in developing new-type weapons including nuclear weapons this year. The U.S. rulers are going ahead with the modernisation of nuclear weapons, openly crying that the present time is "an era of strength" and "nuclear superiority is requisite to victory in the confrontation with socialism."

On the 12th, the U.S. imperialists carried out one more nuclear test, bringing the number of the nuclear tests entering this year to seven.

On the other hand, they are putting spurs to the production of latest-type weapons.

Our people join the world peaceloving people in strongly denouncing the United States for adding wings to production of ultra-modern weapons including nuclear weapons.

The United States should not pay lip-service to "peace," "detente" and "disarmament," but carry them into practice.

U.S. Newspaper Quoted on Korean Situation

SK1810110190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 18 Oct 90

["Disgraceful Act"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 18 (KCNA)—The U.S. paper WORKERS WORLD October 11 in an article noted that the Soviet leadership recently established "diplomatic ties" with the South Korean puppet reactionary regime, yielding to the U.S. pressure.

Terming it as a disgraceful act, the paper asks:

What will this act betraying a socialist ally bring to the Soviet people?

Pointing out that the South Korean people is not an alien nation but belongs to one Korean nation, the article recalls that the Korean nation was divided with the United States occupying South Korea in place of Japanese imperialism after its defeat.

There are no foreign troops in the North, but there are in South Korea U.S. military bases and 1,000 odd pieces of nuclear weapons, notes the paper, adding: this not only threatens socialist North Korea but also the Soviet Union and China.

Branding the No Tae-u "regime" as a repressive police "regime" suppressing many mass demonstrations in cold blood, the article notes: South Korea allows the U.S. forces to occupy South Korea, ignoring the will of the entire North Korean people for reunification. This is a chief obstacle to Korea's reunification.

Saying that the Soviet leadership must bear responsibility for its obstruction to the reunification of Korea, the paper said that its act will divest it of the trust of the international working-class movement and the oppressed people.

It stresses that support to the Korean people's struggle and demand for U.S. forces' withdrawal from South Korea are the primary task of all the progressive forces.

Kim Tal-hyon Heads Delegation for Cuba

SK1410092090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0823 GMT 14 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 14 (KCNA)—A government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Vice-Premier Kim Tal-hyon left here on October 13 for Cuba.

It was seen off at the airport by Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs, Han Su-kil, vice-minister of foreign trade, Czechoslovak and Soviet ambassadors and an official of the Cuban Embassy in Pyongyang.

Cuba's Castro Meets Delegation

SK2210054790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0534 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 22 (KCNA)—The Cuban and the Korean people advancing under the uplifted banner of socialism should closely unite, support and cooperate with each other, stressed Comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, when he met in Havana on October 19 a DPRK Government delegation headed by Vice-Premier Kim Tal-hyon which had participated in the 14th session of the Inter-Governmental Economic and Scientific-Technological Consultative Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Cuba.

He voiced full support to the Korean people's struggle to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country in accordance with the new five-point policy advanced by President Kim Il-song for national reunification.

Comrade Fidel Castro was present in a reception arranged on the same day by Korean Ambassador to Cuba Pak Chung-kuk upon the successful conclusion of the 14th session of the Korea-Cuba Inter-Governmental Economic and Scientific- Technological Consultative Committee.

Top Leaders Receive Gifts From Sierra Leone

SK1810110790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1032 GMT 18 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 18 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a gift from President Joseph Saidu Momoh of the Republic of Sierra Leone.

The gift was handed to an official concerned by Salia Jusu Sheriff, member of the Central Executive Committee of the All-People's Congress of Sierra Leone and second vice-president of the Republic of Sierra Leone, on a visit to Korea.

[Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 18 October reports "Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from President Joseph Saidu Momoh of the Republic of Sierra Leone...the gift was handed to an official concerned by Salia Jusu Sheriff."]

Kim Il-song, WPK Praised Abroad

SK1910055590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0520 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Spelling of names as received]

[Text] Pyongyang October 19 (KCNA)—A central rally was held at the "Nico Lopez" higher party school in Havana on October 11 in celebration of the 45th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

The director of the school and member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba made a speech at the rally.

He said:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, basing himself on the organisational and ideological preparations for founding the party, the vanguard of the revolution, he made during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, founded the Workers' Party of Korea with the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters as the backbones on October 10, 1945, after the liberation of the country, and brilliantly accomplished the cause of building a mass party.

The WPK strengthened its organisational and ideological work to achieve a rock-firm unity and cohesion of the party. The communist party of Cuba and the Workers' Party of Korea are adhering to the revolutionary cause of the working class to the end.

Addressing a celebration meeting held by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) on October 8, the international secretary and member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee, noted that the WPK has firmly united the entire people around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and strengthened and developed into an invincible revolutionary party which has relations of kinship with the popular masses and is accomplishing the revolutionary cause by enhancing their role.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of India (Marxist), he added, is fully supporting the struggle of the WPK and the Korean people to achieve the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and strongly demanding the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. Forces from South Korea.

Theophil Andrianaeisoa, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Malagasy Vanguard of Revolution, speaking at a celebration meeting held by the Central Committee of the Malagasy Vanguard of Revolution on October 10, stressed that thanks to the correct leadership of the WPK and the unity and cohesion of the Korean people Korea has been able to achieve the world-wide fame as a strong socialist state which does not shake in any storm.

The reunification of Korea, he added, must be achieved in accordance with the proposal for founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo put forward by President Kim Il-song.

The meeting adopted messages of greetings to the great leader President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Praise for Kim Chong-il Carved in Mt. Kumgang

SK1910033790 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 5 Oct 90

[Excerpts] At a significant time when we mark the 45th anniversary of the founding of the glorious Workers' Party of Korea, immortal letters highly praising the leader of the people have been carved in Mt. Kumgang, the famous mountain of Korea.

On Oson Peak of Naegumgang of Mt. Kumgang in (Manpotong) district, letters reading, "Kim Chong-il, Glory of Korea and Pride of the Nation," have been carved on a large scale and have been shining brilliantly. The height of a letter of the letters of praise, which have been carved on a peculiar natural rock in the mid-slope of Oson Peak rising in the sky against the beautiful scenery of Manpoktong, is 14 meters, and the width of it is nine meters. And, the height of a letter of his name is 18 meters, and the width of it is 13 meters.

In addition, on Mangsu Peak of Wegumgang of Mt. Kumgang in (Kuryongdong) district, letters reading, "Kim Chong-il, Guiding Star of Chuche," have been carved. [passage omitted]

These magnificent letters have been carved splendidly and artistically at the highest level in order to go well with the natural scenery of Mt. Kumgang. Thus, they are monumental masterpieces of the era of the WPK, which has vigorously demonstrated the great glory and national pride of our people.

After the letters reading "Chong-il Peak" were carved on a solemn peak in the secret camp of Mt. Paektu, the sacred place of the revolution, other immortal letters of praise have been carved in Mt. Kumgang, which is world-famous for beautiful scenery. This is an expression of absolute trust, endless admiration, and devoted loyalty of the entire fellow countrymen toward the great leader [yongdoja] of the revolution.

In addition, this is an expression of our people trying to perpetually uphold the leader of the people who has accumulated immortal achievements and the revolution. They are also trying to complete the cause of the revolution to the end which was exploited by the leader while upholding the banner of the chuche idea and socialism under the leadership of the party. [passage omitted]

Kang Song-san Attends Coal Complex Ceremony

SK1910035390 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 17 Oct 90

[Excerpts] (Hamyon) coal, which is newly developed, has begun to operate. [passage omitted]

A ceremony to mark the operation of (Hamyon) coal was yesterday held on the spot. The ceremony was attended by Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and responsible secretary of the North Hamgyong Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial People's Committee; Kim Yong-yun, chairman of the North Hamgyong Provincial Administrative and Economic Committee; (Han Hae-tong), vice minister of the Coal Industry; and functionaries concerned with employees of the coal complex, builders, and volunteers. [passage omitted]

At the ceremony, a thank-you note from the WPK Central Committee to the workers, technicians, office employees, and three-revolution team members of the coal mine construction complex in the northern district who were involved in the construction of (Hamyon) coal, was delivered among enthusiastic applause of the attendants. [passage omitted]

Revolutionary Outlook on Leader Urged

SK1810005390 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0007 GMT 14 Oct 90

[NODONG SINMUN 14 October special article: "Our Party's Ideas and Theories on Chuche-oriented Outlook on Revolution Are a Precious Guideline for Fostering Genuine Communist Revolutionaries"]

[Text] From the first day of its founding, our party always directed great strength toward preparing all members of society to be passionate communist revolutionaries. As the socialist construction advanced, our party energetically led the work for the people to firmly establish a revolutionary outlook on the world.

The historic document titled "On firmly establishing the chuche-oriented outlook on the revolution" by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is of great significance in our party's leadership.

The document, which was made public by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il on 10 October 1987, is a mighty ideological and theoretical weapon which we should constantly grasp tightly for strengthening the main force of our revolution in every way by fostering men to be genuine communist revolutionaries.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, has indicated: By substantively carrying out the work of establishing the outlook on the revolution, we should firmly foster party members and workers to be genuine communist revolutionaries with a firm chuche-oriented outlook concerning the revolution.

Firmly establishing the chuche-oriented outlook concerning the revolution means that one cherishes the determination and will to struggle by dedicating everything to the revolution with precise consciousness of the essence, the basic purpose, and implementation method of the revolution.

Only when men establish the chuche-oriented outlook on the revolution, can they be faithful to the revolution to the end by breaking through all difficulties and trials and permanently glorify honor and dignify as revolutionaries.

The historic document, "On firmly establishing the chuche-oriented outlook on revolution," comprehensively elucidates the significance of cherishing as faith the outlook on the revolution, the essence and composition of the chuche-oriented outlook on the revolution, and all theoretical and practical issues on establishing the chuche-oriented outlook on the revolution.

Because of the justness of ideologies and theories included in this document, it is demonstrating greater vitality with each passing date.

Today the main force of our revolution has been constantly strengthened and the revolutionary zeal to fight for accomplishment of the chuche cause to the end has been enhanced among party members and workers. This is clear evidence of the justness and vitality of the document.

The document has, above all, become a precious guideline which enables party members and workers to firmly establish the revolutionary outlook concerning the leader. The outlook of the leader constitutes a kernel in ideological and mental outlook of communist revolutionaries.

Only when those who are carrying out the revolution cherish a thoroughgoing position and outlook concerning the leader, can they be firmly rallied behind the party and the leader—organizationally and ideologically—have an everlasting social and political life and struggle to the end for victory of the revolution under any difficult condition.

Under arduous circumstances in the past when they had to fight by solving all problems by themselves without the support of the nation and regular army, the anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters could fight for a long period of time by cherishing unwavering revolutionary faith because their outlook concerning the leader was thoroughgoing.

Although the specific circumstances in which the revolutionary struggle was waged were different, the period of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and today are not different from each other from the standpoint that the revolutionary struggles were waged under the leader's leadership and according to the leader's ideas and will.

Even today, only when those who have the firm outlook, can they be faithful to the leader's ideas and intentions and can they have the most valuable honor as the revolutionary without wavering in any wind.

The outlook concerning the leader, which those who are carrying out the revolution should cherish by all means, is not to be established of its own accord. Only when one correctly realizes that the leader is the center of the life of social and political groups, can one keenly understand the outlook concerning the leader.

Only when one keenly realizes that the leader is the center of of social and political groups lives, can one be firmly united with the leader morally and with blood ties and faith, and can one share the fate with the leader to the end.

One's sense of dedication to think and act only according to the leader's ideas and intentions—trusting the leader as the mental pillar and struggling, with total dedication, to implementing the revolutionary tasks put forward by the leader—can be demonstrated only when one is linked with the leader organizationally and ideologically, based on comradeship, and only when one realizes that one can cherish the everlasting social and political life only in the bosom of the party and the leader.

The document theoretically elucidated all principled issues on establishing the revolutionary outlook on the leader. The document comprehensively expounded issues on the principled position that one should regard the leader not only as the supreme commander in pioneering the destiny of the masses of the people but also as the center of the life of social and political groups. The document also elucidated the issue of implementing the establishment of the revolutionary outlook concerning the leader by closely linking this work with the practice of today's revolution. For this, our party's ideas and theories on establishing the chuche-oriented revolutionary outlook have become a guideline for establishing the revolutionary outlook concerning the leader and the precious ideological and intellectual food inspiring the revolutionary zeal of our party members and workers who are resolved to carry out the revolution to the end by following the leadership of the party and the leader.

The document is a mighty weapon for the people who are carrying out the revolution to loyally follow the party's leadership with a correct position and outlook concerning the party. As was elucidated in the document, the leader is the center of life for social and political groups and the party is the organ playing the key functions in uniting the masses of the people into one social and political organism with the leader as their center.

The masses of the people can be united into an independent social and political organism and can be the genuine masters of their destinies only based on the party organizations. Without the party's leadership and organizations, one cannot be linked with the leader with blood ties nor can one cherish the everlasting social and political life. Therefore, the genuine revolutionaries, who treasure the party more than their own lives, regard it as their vital demand to loyally uphold the party's leadership.

The theory on cherishing the correct position and outlook on the party is of great significance in our party's ideas and theories on firmly establishing the chuche-oriented revolutionary outlook.

The document comprehensively expounded all theoretical and practical questions on establishing the revolutionary outlook on organizations including the party's position in the social and political organisms, the scope of the position and outlook on the party, the mutual relations of organizations and social and political organisms, and the essence and significance of organizational and ideological life.

Thus, when the people deeply understand the ideas and theories expounded in the document and thoroughly embody them, the people will become tenacious revolutionaries whose position and outlook on the party are thoroughgoing.

The excellent outlook on working and living by treasuring one's organization more than one's own life and by always relying on one's organization, and the outlook on the struggle to accomplish the mission assigned by the party to the end going through fire and water, firmly arming oneself with the ideas of the party and the leader, can be highly demonstrated when one takes our party's ideas and theories on establishing the chuche-oriented revolutionary outlook as one's faith and principle.

The document has great vitality for making the people, who are carrying out the revolution, devotedly struggle for the interest of the masses with a correct position and outlook concerning the masses of the people.

As taught by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the masters of the revolution and construction are the masses of the people and the might to push ahead with the revolution and construction also stems from the masses of the people.

The masses of the people are the most precious and powerful existence. Unless we rely on the masses of the people, we cannot advance the revolution even a step forward. Without the sense of devoted service to the masses of the people, one cannot talk about the loyalty to the party, to the leader and to the revolution.

The greatest honor and value of the revolutionaries, who are loyal to the party, lie in the struggle to realize the interest of the masses of the people and that of the party.

In his document on establishing the chuche-oriented revolutionary outlook, dear Comrade Kim Chong-il comprehensively expounded the essence of the revolutionary outlook on the masses and various principled issues raised in establishing this outlook.

The document clearly showed a scientific way for serving the people, regarding them as the masters of the revolution, and for carrying out the revolution by relying on infinite might of the masses of the people. The ideas of this document serve as a powerful weapon which enables the party of the working class and the Communists to victoriously advance the socialist construction without a slightest degree of deviation and vicissitude.

The document expounded with emphasis that the outlook on the leader, the outlook on organizations and the outlook on the masses should be linked with the revolutionary moral principle and with an outlook on life so that they become one's faith based on one's revolutionary conscience.

Thus, the document elucidated that the outlook on the leader, the outlook on organizations, the outlook on the masses and the moral principle are the important factors constituting the revolutionary outlook. Indeed, this document is a great program for reforming men expounding the ideological and mental characteristics of genuine communist revolutionaries at as lofty a level as that of the outlook on the world [segyegwanchok nopieso].

The justness and indomitable vitality of ideas and theories advanced by the document on fostering men into ardent chuche-type communist revolutionaries have been fully proven through practice of our revolution.

Today the ideological and intellectual outlooks of our party members and workers are excellent. Taking loyalty to the party and to the leader as their life, all the people are fully displaying peerless mass heroism in the struggle to accomplish the party's line and policy.

The slogans, "Let us struggle by dedicating our lives to the great leader!" "We carry out what the party decides!" "Let the entire party mingle with the masses!" and "Let us serve the people!" are the slogans which can stem only from our country where the work of reforming men and the work with men are successfully carried out at the highest level.

In particular, the work of establishing the chuche revolutionary outlook is being vigorously waged among the growing new generations and all of them are preparing themselves to be reliable workers of the nation and the inheritors of the chuche revolutionary cause. This is indeed our pride.

Numerous events marking the 45th anniversary of the founding of the Workers' Party of Korea, including the torchlight march by 100,000 youth and students in Pyongyang and the grand mass gymnastic game, vigorously demonstrated the invincible might of our youth and people who are firmly prepared politically and ideologically and who are firmly rallied behind the party and the leader.

Our people, who were unenlightened in the past, have grown into the revolutionary people armed with the immortal chuche idea and into the great people displaying ideological and mental characteristics which the people waging the revolution should have. This is one of the greatest achievements made by our party for the time and for the revolution.

Thus, whenever we think of national honor and dignity demonstrated to the entire world as the heroic people and as the people with firm unity, we come to keenly realize the greatness of our party and wise nature of its leadership. We are firmly resolved to thoroughly implement the ideas and theories advanced by dear Comrade Kim Chong-il on the chuche revolutionary outlook by taking them as our firm faith.

Our revolution is on a advancing path, and a number of difficult and enormous revolutionary tasks are laid before us. To vigorously demonstrate the might of the most superior socialism of our own style, all party members and workers should more firmly arm themselves with our party's ideas and theories on establishing the chuche revolutionary outlook and should continue the work of preparing themselves ideologically and politically so that they can accomplish the chuche revolutionary cause which was pioneered in the Paektu forest under the leadership of the party and the leader.

Chuche Institute Publishes Kim Il-song Works

SK0810140690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 8 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 8 (KCNA)—"Paekbong Library" No. 64 was published by the International Institute of the Chuche Idea.

It carries immortal classic works of the great leader President Kim Il-song "Korea of the Future Belongs to the Youth", "On Some Tasks for the League of Socialist Working Youth", "Answers to the Questions Raised by the Delegation of the National Association of Senegalese Journalists", "For Friendship and Solidarity Among the Youth and Students of the World", "Answers to Questions Raised by the Editor-In-Chief of Soviet Children's Literature", "Youth Must Become the Vanguard on all Fronts of the Building-Up of our Economy and Defence To Bring our Revolution to Final Victory", "The Youth Should be Dependable Heirs to the Revolutionary Cause of Chuche" and "Young People and Students, Be the Vanguard of our Times".

It also contains the works of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il "On Further Strengthening Party Guidance on the Work With Youth and Children" and "The Present Times and the Tasks Facing Young People".

South Korea

Seoul Sports Officials Greet North Soccer Team

SK2110084890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0829 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 21 (OANA-YONHAP)—Enthusiatic crowd lined up on Seoul streets Sunday to greet the North Korean soccer team and officials who crossed the inter-Korean border for a friendship reunification match.

Hundreds of citizens waved and clapped in smiles as cars and buses carrying the 78-member delegation headed to Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel in the eastern capital city.

The North Korean entourage arrived at Walker Hill a little past noon and was met by sports minister Chong Tong-song, president of the Korea Football Association Kim U-chung and other sports officials.

South Korean team members and their director Pak Chong-hwan, already acquainted with the North Korean players from the previous match in Pyongyang two weeks ago, were especially warm and friendly, calling out each other's names, shaking hands and sometimes exchanging light pats on the head.

"We came to Seoul embodying the long-cherished wish of the people for national reunification," Kim Yu-sun, North Korean sports minister, said in his arrival statement at the hotel. "We witnessed the warmth of the people in the South throughout our trip here from (the border village of) Panmunjom, and we reaffirmed our believe that we are indeed one despite 45 years of division and that we must unite," he said.

"North and South Korean teams must no longer compete against each other, and people should not live separated as strangers," Kim said.

More than 100 reporters swarmed the press room as Kim made the statement, but the sports minister declined their questions, saying, "there will be plenty of time later."

Myong Tong-chan, director of the North Korean team, emphasized the spirit of the friendship game, vowing to play not for victory but for national unification. "The purpose of the match is to bring the people together and improve understanding of each other," he said.

Kim Hyong-chin, vice chairman of the North Korean Olympic Committee, meanwhile hinted goods news that North Korea may attend the first world table tennis championship to open in Seoul early next month. "Depending on the outcome of the talks between sports ministers during our stay, North Korea may attend the championship games," he said. "The two ministers will share number of talks on the issue and other sports exchanges," Kim added.

At the welcoming sideline were some show business people including Yi Chu-il, a veteran comedian who will be leading the cheering squad at the soccer match on Tuesday. Yi said he is planning a "practice cheer" the day before the games.

The North Korean squad had their first meal in Seoul at Walker Hill before going up to their rooms. They reappeared after a brief rest and headed to Olympic main stadium, the site of the game, for field practice. They are to attend a welcome dinner hosted by Kim U-Chung in the evening and view a movie.

DPRK Official Protests 'Distorted' Reporting

SK2210085690 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 22 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Claiming that the travelogues on Pyongyang by the South Korean reporters who have recently been to Pyongyang, and a weekly serial television drama, entitled "Days of Dawning" carried by the KBS-television station on the evening of 21 October are considerably distorted, North Korea lodged an official protest with the South Korean Government and said that it will withdraw the North Korean soccer team.

On the morning of 22 October, Kim Yu-sun, chairman of the State Athletic Committee who is staying in Seoul for the North-South reunification soccer games, lodged a protest with Chong Tong-song, sports minister, against "prejudiced reporting" by the South Korean press, and conveyed a letter of official protest.

In response to this, Minister Chong and other government officials concerned persuaded Chairman Kim and other North Korean officials all night long to withhold the withdrawal of the North Korean team by guaranteeing that reports of the South Korean press will not be distorted from today on.

It was learned that the North Korean side warned the South Korean officials stressing that "if the South Korean press continues distorted reporting, the North-South relations will be affected negatively, and the North Korean side will immediately withdraw its soccer team."

'Oppressive' Security Mars North Korean's Visit

SK2210063790 Seoul YONHAP in English 0612 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 22 (OANA-YONHAP)—The presence of North Korean soccer players in South Korea is a historic event that has caused some excitement as well as a few complaints as a result of the oppressive security operation that has been mounted to guard the precious visitors.

The 78 members of the delegation are ringed by hundreds of guards posted in and around the Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel, where the North Koreans will stay until Thursday.

Government agencies, the sports and information ministries and the Korea Football Association, are in charge and the general opinion among the North Korean visitors and the home crowd is that their excessive concern is a pain in the neck.

Yi Hoe-taek, a former manager of the South Korean soccer team, says he was treated in a "most disgraceful way" Sunday night when he tried to visit the North Koreans without official permission. Turning away Yi was an overreaction by overzealous guards, and makes an extremely embarrassing comparison to the dramatic reunion of the former manager with his father after 40 years of forced separation arranged while he was in Pyongyang earlier this month for the first inter-Korean soccer match.

A minor confrontation was reported late Sunday night when Yi Kil-sung, a reporter from North Korea's NODONG SINMUN, allegedly seized and refused to return a microphone belonging to a reporter from Seoul's Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC). Mun Shin-ho from MBC was talking with Yi, who was out for a stroll near the hotel, when they got into a shouting match about the manners of reporters from the two sides. Yi took Mun's microphone and demanded a formal apology. Other North Korean reporters, calling their South Korean colleagues ill-mannered, now refuse to answer questions.

The start of the goodwill event, designed to build bridges of friendship and brotherhood, was inauspicious. The visitors complained during the ride from the crossing point in the truce village of Panmunjom to the hotel that their reception was "lukewarm" compared to the fanfare in Pyongyang for the South Korean delegation. Some complained about the "robustness" of their guides, saying the South Koreans had been guided by reporters and young women in Pyongyang, and others demanded to know why the accomodation was in eastern Seoul, saying its remoteness was inappropriate for press activites.

South Korean reporters, players and officials are barred from approaching the North Koreans, and hotel patrons are complaining about the domineering security guards. When the North Korean players left their rooms early Monday morning to jog, they said they were unhappy with the excessive security. Observers say the government has gone totally overboard, even to the point of harming the reconciliatory mood just budding between Seoul and Pyongyang.

Premiers' Talks Give Hope for Summit Meeting

SK2010004390 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 20 Oct 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Hope for Inter-Korea Summit"]

[Text] The outcome of the just-ended second round of prime ministers' talks between South and North Korea in Pyongyang is meaningful in that the possibility of a tangible agreement between the two halves of the divided country is heightened in the next or third official parley in Seoul to be held Dec. 11-14, though no formal accord was reached during the Pyongyang conference.

Notably, North Korean leader Kim Il-song expressed his willingness to have a summit with South Korean President No Tae-u at an early date when he met South Korean Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, chief delegate from Seoul, at his palace Thursday.

Thus, the Seoul bid to hold an inter-Korea summit may be achieved, depending upon the progress of the ongoing premiers' talks, since Kim expressed the hope that the premiers of the two sides would make efforts to realize his meeting with President No at an early date, an encounter that he said should bring about good results and not disappoint the people.

During the Pyongyang talks, the two sides exchanged concrete proposals centered on an end to political and military confrontation, and on human and material exchanges in various sectors. Still encouraging, even though no agreement was reached, were both sides' attempts to accommodate each other's overtures, not rejecting them at all, giving signs that there is room for compromise with each other through future rounds of the premiers' talks.

The major proposals the South and the North presented were Seoul's draft of a joint declaration for reconciliation and cooperation between South and North Korea, and Pyongyang's bid for a declaration of nonaggression.

The two proposals have both similarities and differences. Seoul's new overture adopts in part Pyongyang's suggestion to reaffirm the "three principles of unification"—independence, peace and great national unity—of the July 4 Joint Communique, and to operate a hotline between military authorities.

On the other hand, Pyongyang's modified proposal on the declaration of nonaggression drops its long-standing demand for the pullout of American forces from the South and nuclear arms from the Korean peninsula. In addition, North Korea took a step forward by agreeing to the Seoul request for the discussion of human and material exchanges in parallel with the debate of political and military problems which it favors.

As the spokesmen of the two delegations to the Pyongyang meeting pointed out, noteworthy as a positive attitude was both sides' willingness to seek practicable agreement and to discontinue slander of each other.

However, the two sides remained at odds over details of each other's proposals. The Seoul proposal contains an overall realistic approach to improving inter-Korea relations by suggesting the discontinuation of slander and sabotage against each other, the implementation of human exchanges with emphasis on the humanitarian reunion of separated family members, and the promotion of economic cooperation.

Fortunately, North Korea, which has ever insisted on the declaration of nonaggression before all else, has begun to show a somewhat flexible attitude and accept Seoul's basic overture that each side should recognize the other's government and system as an existent identity. The latest Pyongyang attitude indicates a gradual move to change its one-Korea policy in an attempt to seek diplomatic ties with Japan following the recent Seoul-Moscow rapproachement and also the Seoul-Beijing moves to seek diplomatic normalization.

Though it has apparently toned down its demand, tantamount to an intervention in the South's domestic affairs, for the discontinuation of Team Spirit, the annual Korea-U.S. defensive military exercise, and the release of convicts who made illegal, secret visits to North Korea, Pyongyang remains opposed to allowing reunion of family members separated between the South and the North, and agreeing to the two Koreas' separate U.N. memberships.

In this connection, Pyongyang apparently put off the next premiers' talks until toward mid-December when the year's United Nations General Assembly is to end, in an effort to prevent South Korea from obtaining U.N. membership separately by keeping pending th issue of Korean entry into the world forum until at least the next inter-Korean parley. In sum, the success or failure of the premiers' talks is likely to be determined through the coming third meeting in Seoul.

Seoul May Link Nonaggression Proposal To Summit

SK2010112090 Seoul YONHAP in English 1105 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 20 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government is considering linking its acceptance of the North Korean proposal for a non-aggression pact to its call for the holding of a South-North summit, informed official sources here said Saturday.

The change in Seoul's attitude toward the non-aggression pact is being studied in line with the judgement that a persistent refusal of the pact would not be justifiable considering the fact that President No Tae-u himself asserted his willingness to accept the pact in his speech at the U.N. General Assembly on Oct. 18, 1988, they explained.

No proposed in the U.N. speech that South and North Korea hold summit talks to reach an accord on and jointly declare non-aggression or nonuse of military force for the purpose of building up fundamental mutual trust and arranging a device to guarantee security.

North Korean President Kim Il-song himself proposed, in his national speech on the 40th anniversary of the North Korean Government in 1988, that the two Koreas hold "supreme-level talks" and adopt a non-aggression pact.

A high-level government official said that the South Korean Government holds it as its basic position that the two sides adopt a "joint communique on South-North reconciliation and cooperation" which would comprehensively cover both non-aggression and exchange-cooperation. "But," he added, "the government will consider separating the two agenda items and adopt two different joint communiques, one dealing with non-aggression and the other exchange-cooperation, should Pyongyang continue opposing our proposal even in the third prime ministers talks in December."

"The South Korean Government officials are paying particular attention to the fact that Seoul and Pyongyang are sharing a view that the non-aggression pact should be signed and adopted by their top leaders," the official said. "From this," he said, "we can conclude that our acceptance of the North Korean proposal for non-aggression pact would just mean an early holding of South-North summit."

If the pact is really agreed on, the official predicted, it will first be initialed in the prime ministers talks and then put to legislative deliberation and finally announced jointly by the top leaders of the two sides.

The southern side has so far refused to accept Pyongyang's proposal to sign a non-aggression pact right away, insisting that the two sides should first build up mutual trust and confidence through exchanges and cooperations as a prior step to reaching such cardinal accords.

Nonaggression Proposal Planned for Summit Talks

SK2210082090 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 22 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Judging that the nonaggression agreement between North and South Korea can hardly be safeguarded realistically without the direct agreement and signing between the highest-level leaders of both sides who have the prerogative of the supreme command of the military, the government decided to take a fundamental position of adopting the nonaggression declaration between North and South Korea at the summit talks between President No Tae-u and North Korean President Kim Il-song.

Accordingly, the government decided to induce an agreement on this point through the forthcoming North-South premiers' talks and to carry out negotiations for the draft of the nonaggression declaration to be adopted at the North-South summit talks.

Analyzing that the draft North-South nonaggression declaration which the North Korean side put forward at the second round of the North-South high-level talks held in Pyongyang can hardly safeguard nonaggression realistically, the government is planning to supplement the contents of the draft by counterproposals in the negotiations between the North and the South. A government official, touching on this issue on 21 October, said, "The North Korean side put forward a draft North-South nonaggression declaration consisting of the preamble and seven articles at the Pyongyang talks and urged our side to sign it immediately, but the issue of nonaggression is not the sort of issue that can be guaranteed at the premier level talks of the North and the South. Moreover, the contents of the draft were based not on the true spirit of nonaggression but on the political and military calculation aimed at implementing its existing southward strategy, such as the withdrawal of the U.S. forces."

He noted, "The North-South nonaggression declaration is meaningless unless North Korea abandons its fundamental southward strategy of reunification by force by communizing the South." He then added, "Therefore, our government is of opinion that the North- South nonaggression declaration should stipulate, above all, that North Korea abandons the strategy of communizing the South by force."

He noted, "The draft put forward by the North side contains the clauses calling for the suspension of the arms race and a phased reduction of the Armed Forces, but there is no way of verifying the actual implementation of the declaration." He then went on to say, "Therefore, to ensure that this declaration is valid, it should also contain the agreement of the two sides on the system and device to confirm and watch its implementation."

He said, "Since North Korean military strength is considerably superior to ours at present and since the practicability of the nonaggression declaration is closely connected with the balance of military strength between the two sides, it should be taken into account, prior to the adoption of the nonaggression declaration, the need for the presence of the U.S. forces in the ROK and its duration from the standpoint of maintaining balance of the military strength."

Meanwhile, the government reconfirmed that in view of the importance of the North-South nonaggression declaration, the declaration should be approved by the National Assembly and the people through appropriate procedures prior to the adoption of the nonaggression declaration.

Daily Interviews North's Premier Yon Hyong-muk

SK2010124090 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 20 Oct 90 P 2

[Interview with Yon Hyong-muk, DPRK Administrative Council's premier, by unidentified TONG-A ILBO correspondent in Pyongyang on 18 October]

[Text] Editor's note: Yon Hyong-muk, the DPRK Administration Council premier, in an exclusive interview with TONG-A ILBO, on the evening of 18 October after finishing the 2d round of the North-South High-Level Talks, talked about the North side's attitude toward the Pyongyang talks and the future. When a TONG-A ILBO reporter asked him to hold an interview during the banquet arranged by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly (the National Assembly), he willingly gave an interview for approximately 10 minutes. After the interview, he wrote his signature and asked the reporter "to report about the interview as I gave it."

[TONG-A ILBO] What is the North side's attitude toward the Pyongyang talks this time?

[Yon] We raised the issue of adopting a reliable, progressive, and epoch-making nonaggression declaration in the talks this time. We proposed that—after adopting a nonaggression declaration—the fellow countrymen of Korea should by no means trigger a war and that they should cooperate with each other to achieve reunification.

[TONG-A ILBO] Why have you mainly emphasized the issue of a nonaggression declaration rather than that of exchanges and cooperation?.

[Yon] If a war breaks out in Korea, it is highly probable that it will be a nuclear war, not a small war. If a nuclear war breaks out, this land will be ruined; still worse, the nation will be destroyed. If that happens, exchanges between the North and the South and visits between separated families will be unnecessary. What will remain any more, if the nation and the people are ruined?

[TONG-A ILBO] What do you think about the danger of a war?

[Yon] The possibility of a war still remains on the Korean peninsula. No one can be sure that a war will not break out again. Therefore, the most important task in the divided fatherland is to dispel long-standing distrust and to remove the factor of a war. This is why we proposed to adopt a nonaggression declaration.

[TONG-A ILBO] Hasn't the South side proposed to adopt "a joint declaration for reconciliation and cooperation between the North and the South" which represents the North side's standpoint?

[Yon] We also valued the South side's standpoint toward the talks this time. We expect that a nonaggression declaration will surely be adopted.

[TONG-A ILBO] Is it necessary to cling to the name of a declaration? Doesn't the joint declaration for reconciliation and cooperation, made by the South side, nearly include the entire nonaggression declaration proposal that the North side made?

[Yon] Both the North and the South proposed to adopt a nonaggression declaration in the talks. The question of a nonaggression declaration is not the matter that the Seoul side stated yesterday or today. The Seoul side clearly raised the issue several times—even in the president's 15 August address and in President No Tae-u's U.N. address. We raised the issue of a nonaggression declaration which includes all the contents of the addresses. Thus, to my bewilderment, I do not understand why the South this time proposed a joint declaration for reconciliation and cooperation instead of using the term nonaggression.

[TONG-A ILBO] Why do you hold fast to the name itself? Aren't the contents important?

[Yon] I do not know why you trouble me constantly. Well, won't the question of a nonaggression declaration be discussed again, even if a joint declaration for reconciliation and cooperation happens to be adopted?

[TONG-A ILBO] Do you have any words to say to the South Korean people?

[Yon] The same people, who had lived harmoniously for about 1,000 years, should be reunified at an early date. Our Korea, if divided into two, will be a small country; Korea, united, will be a big country on a strong foundation. The might of our people will be strengthened. Large countries are all around us. We should be united as soon as possible to increase our strength. To this end, a nonaggression declaration to recover trust between the North and the South should be adopted at an early date.

After this interview, he repeatedly asked the reporter "did you understand?" adding that "exchanges will be suspended again even though they will be promoted even if a nonaggression declaration is not adopted."

Daily Views North's Declaration of Nonaggression

SK2110114890 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 21 Oct 90 p 3

[Editorial: "A Trap Hidden in a 'Declaration of Nonaggression'"]

[Text] What does a declaration of nonaggression signify? It is interpreted literally as meaning broadly declaring that two hostile sides will not invade each other. This being the case, relations of hostility between two sides, each actually fearing the other's aggression, should come to an end. In other words, merely declaring nonaggression is not sufficient, but objective devices proving that the declaration is not false should be provided.

In a keynote speech at the second round of the North-South premiers talks in Pyongyang, the North Korean side advanced a seven-point draft declaration of nonaggression and requested that our side sign it at once without any discussion of preceding procedures. We cannot but view this as an attitude of ignoring the existence of the other side and not as due process. As pointed out by the North side, we had proposed a declaration of nonaggression earlier.

On 23 June 1973, then-President Pak Chong-hui made clear that "The North and the South shall not interfere with the internal affairs of the other side, neither shall they invade the other side" in the seven-point declaration of diplomacy for peaceful reunification. President No Tae-u also stressed the need to adopt a North-South declaration of nonaggression in his speech two years ago at the UN General Assembly session and in his speech this year to celebrate the liberation of 15 August. However, we have never urged the other side to agree to and sign our declaration at once without any revision of it. Furthermore, we have not conducted the propaganda of shifting the blame for rejecting the draft onto the other side just because we did not sign it immediately. This is because a declaration should be based on an agreement, which must be reached through full discussions and consultations and realistically abided by, as long as the other side exists. Instead of emphasizing an unsubstantial declaration, a promise that can be kept should be made. The first step to this end is to mutually recognize and honor the system of the other side. Persisting only in a declaration of nonaggression while obviously maintaining the policy and intention of denying the system of the other side and trying to overthrow it in a revolutionary manner cannot but be viewed as false.

The second step is to dissolve the major apparatus and structures that were established to overthrow the other's system. For example, all organizations aimed at shaking the system of the Republic of Korea and ultimately at toppling it—such as the Anti-South Department of Liaison Affairs under the "Workers' Party of Korea," the "Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland," and the "Voice of National Salvation"—should be truly abolished. Once political credibility has been established, the North and the South should take the third step—reducing their military capabilities and turning their offensive structure and deployment into a defensive structure and deployment.

Once a foundation for this third step has been laid, North and South Korea should exclude the United States and China, which participated in the 25 June war as volunteers, from the present armistice system and sign an agreement of nonaggression or an agreement of peace only between themselves.

The clear ulterior motive of the North Korean side is to sign a peace agreement with the United States and adopt a "declaration of nonaggression," which will tightly bind South Korea, while completely ignoring the above mentioned procedures. We should clearly watch this motive. In particular, the provision "The current Military Demarcation Line shall be the boundary of nonaggression" in the North side's draft declaration of nonaggression is nothing different from the present Armistice Agreement. Also, the North side's proposal for "an end to the arms race and the reduction of armed forces" is a very thoughtless and irresponsible overture which mixes a declaration of nonaggression with the work of disarmament. On the contrary, President No's proposal, in the United Nations in October 1988, for reaching "an agreement on nonaggression or the nonuse of armed forces and jointly declaring it" under the precondition of the "framework of mutual trust and a guarantee for security" was moderate and reasonable. We should bear in mind that the ulterior motive hidden in the draft declaration of nonaggression is, in short, to neutralize the South side by weakening our anti-North alertness and consciousness of crises. This will thus make the withdrawal of the U.S. forces inevitable while the consolidated offensive posture of the North side will remain intact.

Editorial Discusses Results of North-South Talks

SK2110104090 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 20 Oct 90 p 2

[Editorial: "Can the Name of a Declaration of Nonaggression Be a Problem?—The Fruitlessly Concluded Second Round of North-South High-Level Talks"]

[Text] Is it because of the name of the proposal that the North and the South failed to reach an agreement on a proposal acceptable to both sides? It is, indeed, difficult to understand why the North and the South failed to reach an agreement, despite the fact that most of the details of North Korea's draft of a "North-South declaration of nonaggression" and South Korea's draft of a "joint declaration of reconciliation and cooperation between the North and the South" accommodate each other's demands.

It was considered that the South Korean side would have no pretext for refusing to accept North Korea's draft declaration of nonaggression. This is because the nonaggression question had been raised by the South side since the Pak regime and the North's draft contained most of the details of a "draft of a basic agreement on improving North-South relations" which the South Korean side had presented at the first round of talks in Seoul. Upon hearing Premier Yon Hyong-muk's speech, in which the draft of a declaration of nonaggression was proposed, the spokesman for the South Korean side also "affirmatively appraised the progressive attitude" of the North Korean side. Our understanding was that the North side would not show any different reaction to the South side's draft of a "joint declaration of reconciliation and cooperation between the North and the South," because it contains many details of the North side's draft of a declaration of nonaggression.

In this respect, the North and the South complied with most of each other's demands at the Pyongyang talks. In addition, the South Korean side showed a flexible attitude on the UN membership issue by accepting the sixth item, which provides that "the North and the South shall jointly advance into the international arena and cooperate with each other" in a "way for removing the state of political confrontation", that the North Korean side proposed at the first round of talks. Also, the North Korean side even revealed its position of seemingly recognizing the entity of South Korea by adding the item "The two sides shall recognize and honor the idea and system existing in the other side" to its proposal.

In the same way, the proposals of the two sides had many common features in terms of content and were progressive overtures. This notwithstanding, the South turned down the North's proposal for a declaration of nonaggression on the grounds that "there must follow the procedure of the National Assembly's endorsement, and there are some other contents to be added to the proposal", and the North Korean side also insisted on the name of its own proposal. As a result, the two potentially acceptable proposals to the North and the South have been nullified.

Frankly speaking, we cannot be convinced of the explanations and criticisms of the North and the South, both of which failed to accept the other side's proposal that was concerned mainly with a declaration of nonaggression. If the name of the proposal had been so important and had posed a genuine problem, the two sides could have devised a third name for it. If they had failed to reach an agreement on a acceptable "draft proposal" only because of its name, they would find it difficult to shirk the blame for not intending to declare nonaggression immediately and for trying to delay talks until either side was on a favorable ground.

The results of the Pyongyang talks remind us of the North-South sports talks, which were brought to a rupture last year. At that time, the North and the South also decided on the name of the athletic team and its flag and exchanged documents of a basic agreement, thus making us expect the realization of the participation of a North-South single team in the Asian Games in Beijing. When the talks had almost surmounted large obstacles, however, the South Korean side proposed to add supplementary rules to the agreement. This caused a problem and, thus, made the talks fruitless after all. In observing at that time that even nonpolitical sports talks were brought to a rupture due to political reasons and considerations, we lamented the fact that all talks between the North and the South were confined to the interests and restrictions of the division system.

Superficially at least the second round of North-South High-Level Talks ended without any success. The third round of talks is to be held in Seoul on 11 December. It is impossible to predict whether the North and the South will agree on a declaration of nonaggression, which they proposed to each other at the second round of talks, or whether the talks will just be in vain again.

Those in authority in the North and the South should not forget the genuine significance of the talks; neither should they ignore the expectations 70 million masses on the talks.

Editorial on North-South Premiers Talks

SK2110112290 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
19 Oct 90 p 2

[Editorial: "North-South Prime Ministers Talks in Pyongyang—We Should Flexibly Deal With Changes and Should Assume a Resolute Position on the Path of Democracy and Peace"]

[Text] One should not diminish the significance of the second round of the North-South prime ministers' talks merely with a black or white theory defining the talks as successful or unsuccessful. Another round of talks will be held in Seoul. However, no one should expect that the issue of division, which has been pending for over 45 years, will be resolved promptly after only a few rounds of talks.

The first round of talks in Seoul was significant in its convocation. The second round of talks in Pyongyang consisted mainly of expressing the positions of the North and South sides on essential issues. Following this, a meeting was held between Kang Yong-hun, prime minister of the Republic of Korea, and Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This meeting may be called a reciprocal meeting following the meeting between Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the North Korean Administration Council, and President No Tae-u. Through these means, the top leaders of the North and the South conveyed a message to each other indirectly. Thus, this event alone is significant.

However, there were numerous vicissitudes in discussing the essential issues. Despite the outward expression of each side's flexibility, as if to accept the other side's assertions, there seemed no change in their basic positions. Prompted by the changes in the external situation, including a trend toward the establishment of diplomatic relations between North Korea and Japan and the establishment of diplomatic relations between the ROK and the Soviet Union, we can expect the possibility of policy changes, although no remarkable movement toward this end is presently visible.

South Korea maintained that with the two substantive governments in the North and the South, we should gradually approach an alliance of states [kukka yonhap]. To this, North Korea insisted on the principle of "one state and two systems." Thus, there has been a constant argument between the so-called reunification forces and separatist forces. The logic of one state and two systems, which is the same as China's policy for reunifying Taiwan, includes an ultimate goal of defining one side as the central government and the other as a local government. Everyone is aware of North Korea's aim in this logic.

However, if North Korea establishes diplomatic relations with Japan and begins negotiations with the United States for improved relations, North Korea will certainly realize that this logic will work only as a stumbling block.

The adoption of a nonaggression declaration advocated by North Korea seems to seek compensations from Japan, while suggesting its willingness to begin negotiations with the United States for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and the conclusion of a peace agreement. Thus, North Korea is pursuing multi-faceted aims. However, such aims will be accepted by international society only when they prove their reasonableness and practicality.

For example, in order to remove the state of military confrontation as stipulated in the nonaggression declaration, it is necessary for North Korea to prove that it is taking practical steps in eliminating the threat against the other side. Besides, before North Korea advocates arms reduction, it should decide to remove all offensive weapons from the Demilitarized Zone and to guarantee the security of Seoul. We maintain that by doing so, arms reduction can be advanced and trust be built in turning the nonaggression declaration into an insurance of peace.

South Korea appears to consider the North-South summit talks as significant for settling this issue. However, North Korea pointed out that progress in the prime ministers' talks is a precondition for solving this issue. President Kim Il-song also made this point clear when he met with Prime Minister Kang. Our side's allegation is that since the North-South summit talks will be finally realized, the North-South negotiations should be accelerated according to the decisions of the top leaders in the North and the South. However, since the North side's position was already made clear, we should not adhere only to the summit talks first logic, but should reconsider the "mythological authority" of North-South summit talks. The "card" on the North-South summit talks is now being handed over to the North Korean side. Thus, if we are excessively attached to this logic, only bad results will come to the North-South prime ministers' talks. At the same time, we should pay attention to the fact that the North Korean side recognizes the authority of North-South prime ministers' talks as the supreme communications route for North-South negotiations.

In addition, we would like to ask the North Korean side not to take advantage of the "people's" reunification aspirations, which it points to with an emphasis for its regime's selfish purposes. North Korea carried a live relay of the whole speech by its premier, Yon Hyong-muk, while intentionally ignoring the keynote speech of the "senior delegate of the South side" and the contents of his remarks. Such prejudiced reporting by North Korea should be improved. We have also witnessed the North Korean residents who were shedding tears while clamoring for the release of student Yim Su-kyong and the destruction of the concrete wall.

While holding the North-South talks that discussed the issues of the people's vital interest and the future of the nation, North Korea deprived its residents of the right to know, and showed a mass game praising the one-man dictatorship by mobilizing hundreds of thousands of people. We would like to point out with emphasis that such acts by North Korea will only act as a serious stumbling block.

We will closely watch the third round of talks in Seoul. We truly hope for agreements during the Seoul talks.

Kim Chong-pil Warns Against Unification Illusion

SK2010004990 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 20 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] Kim Chong-pil, a co-chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], yesterday warned against an approach toward national unification based on illusion. "The unification cannot be advanced by simple passages into the North through Panmunjom," Kim said in a university alumni association. "We have to keep in mind that North Koreans who we are contacting are not ordinary citizens," he said.

"The North Koreans are those in the power class, including Kim Il-song, who believe changes will bring about their collapse," said the DLP leader, widely-renowned for his rightist line. He expressed a worry over the latest flood of exchanges in the fields of sports and music. His theory was the exchanges should be made prudently. "We have to hold fast to the principles for unification," Kim stressed.

There were some argument in the opposition camp that Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun should have accepted North Korean proposal for signing joint declaration of nonaggression. Some lawmakers argued they could not understand why Kang refused the North Korean offer, citing the fact that there is not much difference from South Korean position.

Kim's position is diameterically opposed to such argument. The DLP leader, who joined President No Tae-u's ruling camp in February along with Kim yong-sam, also pounded at the government's economic policies. He claimed that the government has stirred up confusion by not doing what it should do, but by doing what it should not do. "At the very time when an economic leap is urgent, the government is implementing policies which frustrate the businessmen," he argued.

North Drops Call for Single IPU Delegation

SK2010031190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0302 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Punta del Este, Uruguay, Oct. 19 (YONHAP)—The North Korean delegation to the 84th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) has dropped its call for a single Korean delegation to attend the IPU conference set for next spring.

"We will no more stick to our position for a single Korean delegation as the South opposes to it, saying it is unrealistic," Yi Mong-ho, head of the North Korean delegation, said in an exclusive interview with YONHAP News Agency Friday.

He said South Korea would be allowed to participate if the 85th IPU conference is held in North Korea, a virtual certainty as there are no other candidates. "There would be no problem for the South to participate in a meeting in Pyongyang. The prime ministers from the South and the North crossed the military demarcation line to visit each other's side, why not a southern parliamentary delegation?" Said Yi, the secretary-general of the Standing Committee of North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly.

He said resumption of inter-Korean parliamentary talks was in accordance with an increase in inter-Korean contacts such as the premiers' talks and good-will soccer matches. He said exchange visits by parliamentarians would be possible in the course of inter-parliamentary talks.

Prime Minister, Sister Meet in Pyongyang

SK2210085390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0843 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 22 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun, 69, secretly met his sister, Yong-sun, 64, in Pyongyang on Oct. 19.

Yi Chin, chief secretary to the prime minister, said on Monday that they met for an hour at the request of Kang's family in North Korea, getting together at 1 a.m. in the Paekhwawon Guest House, where Kang was staying with other South Korean delegates to the premiers' talks.

Kang initially refused to meet his sister, saying he wanted to draw a line between public and private affairs. The meeting was kept of secret by agreement until a North Korean reporter covering the visit to the South of the North Korean soccer team let it out.

Hong Song-chol, the national unification minister, met his elder sister and Yim Tong-won, chancellor of the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security, met his younger brother and sister for one and a half hours.

North Korean Soldier Defects to South

SK2010054290 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0500 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] The Defense Ministry has announced that 24-year-old Sergeant Sin Kwang-ho, an artillery squad leader of the artillery regiment of the 46th Division of the North Korean Army, defected today at around 1040 to the east central front 25 km north of Hwachon. The Defense Ministry is investigating Sergeant Sin's motives for defecting.

Students Apply To Meet North Counterparts

SK2010072490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0710 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 20 (YONHAP)—A group of South Korean students informed the North Korean authorities on Saturday that they were unable to attend a working-level contact with their North Korean counterparts slated for that morning and asked if it could be rescheduled for Wednesday. The students, calling themselves members of "The Committee for Joint Promotion of Unification Studies," are from three private universities in Seoul: Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Kyunghui University and Hanyang University.

On Oct. 11, they sent a letter to Pyongyang through the Berlin headquarters of Pan-National Rally Movement, inviting North Korean students to attend an "Inter-Korean academic festival for unification" in Seoul, and a Pyongyang radio station reported on Friday that five representatives of the (North) Korea student committee would go to the truce village of Panmunjom for the talks at 11 A.M. on Saturday.

As that did not give them enough time to prepare, the southern students counterproposed that the contact be postponed until 11 A.M. on Wednesday. A committee spokesman said they would apply to the National Unification Board for approval for the contact later Saturday and select five representatives for the meeting.

Advanced Countries' Import Barriers Noted

SK2110023190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 21 Oct 90 p 9

[Text] Advanced countries including the United States, Canada and European Community members have been strengthening import barriers and this has become a factor hurting Korean exports.

In particular, the EC bloc has taken a strong protectionist move against Korean products. As much as 28.4 percent of Korean exports to EC in the January-July period were made in the face of the import restrictions.

This is revealed in a survey of the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. (KOTRA) of 20 advanced nations in connection with the Uruguay Round negotiations and their import regulations.

The KOTRA feared advanced nations would not ease import barriers to developing countries even after the completion of the multilateral Uruguay Round negotiations.

The survey report said an estimated 19.2 percent of the nation's total exports to advanced nations were made under strict import controls during the first seven months of this year.

By nation, Korea exported $1,292 million or 28.4 percent of the total $4,545 million to the EC under import restrictions. Facing U.S. import restrictions were exports worth $2,245 million or 20.5 percent of the total $10,936 million

Exchange of Trade Offices With PRC Agreed

SK2010023390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0225 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 20 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and China agreed Saturday to exchange trade offices that will do double duty as consular offices in all but name. Yi Son-ki, president of the Korea Trade Promotion Corp. [KOTRA], and Zheng Hongye, chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade [CCPIT], signed the agreement in Beijing with immediate effect.

It calls for setting up offices in each other's capital in November for cooperation in trade, science and technology as well as for consular duties and intergovernmental contacts.

They will be officially called the representative offices of the signing parties, KOTRA and CCPIT, under the agreement, which also grants privileges similar to diplomatic immunity to both offices and guarantees the security of the office personnel and their families. The trade offices will be manned by about 20 representatives, who will be issued multiple-entry visas.

The pact took immediate effect at the time of its signing and the two countries are expected to conclude necessary details in order to exchange working-level staff at the latest by end of next month. Seoul and Beijing, which have yet to establish official diplomatic links, concluded the accord after 19 months of negotiations that began in March last year. Observers predicted that with the swapping of the trade offices, stumbling blocks such as discriminatory tariffs will be gradually resolved, speeding up commerce and investment activities as well as diplomatic normalization.

Trade Office Exchange Welcomed

SK2010041590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0408 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 20 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government Saturday welcomed the accord to establish trade offices in Seoul and Beijing.

The establishment of trade offices moved relations between South Korea and China a step forward and so the government welcomed it, Foreign Ministry spokesman Chong Ui-yong said.

The government hopes the trade offices expand exchanges and cooperation between the two nations and hopes they accelerate mutual understanding to help normalize relations between the two countries, Chong said.

The Korea Trade Promotion Corp. and the China Council for the Promotion of International trade signed an agreement in Beijing earlier Saturday on opening offices in each other's capital.

Direct Trade To Escalate

SK2110022790 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 21 Oct 90 p 6

[Report by Choe Song-chin in the "News Analysis" column]

[Text] The Chinese seem to have finally readied themselves for accelerated diplomatic and economic ties with Korea, say many political and economic observers here.

Consular duties, albeit limited, to be conducted by KOTRA's [Korean Trade Promotion Corporation] trade representative in Beijing as agreed upon yesterday means that China has come within range of establishing full diplomatic relations with Seoul, as the Soviet Union has recently done, they said.

In the economic area, the offices will, as a matter of fact, provide the legal basis for direct trade between Beijing and Seoul, sharply increasing the already brisk trading activities.

Korea-China trade, first started indirectly in the early 1970s, reached $3,143 million at the end of last year. The sharp surge in bilateral trade is noteworthy, since it was made amid the sharp drop in China's trading volume with other countries owing to the Tiananmen massacre on May 4, economic analysts say.

China is the fourth largest trading partner of Korea, while Seoul is Beijing's eighth, as of the end of 1989. Out of the total $2,347 million in Seoul's total trading volume with Eastern bloc countries, China accounted for 68 percent with $1,589 million, according to government figures.

Pessimists say, however, the agreement is unlikely to immediately increase bilateral trading citing the shortage of foreign exchange in China which has led to import curbs in recent months.

Others are more hopeful, saying that the agreement will dissolve various stumbling blocks in the way to the further expansion and commercial cooperation, such as the lifting of discriminatory tariffs levied on Korean exports.

The lack of various economic agreements, such as investment guarantee pacts and double taxation avoidance accords, have in fact notably cooled the China boom here, they said. Even Korean business officials stationed in Beijing have had to frequently leave the country for Hong Kong or Japan to extend their visa terms.

The trade office establishment will help abolish the unfavorable tariff impositions and offer multiple entry visas to private businessmen, they said. In the mid-term, the government is likely to step up efforts to conclude agreements to provide each other the most-favored-nation trade status and investment guarantees, the observers said.

Korea's investments in China, including those now at the feasibility study stage, were valued at $124 million for 67 projects, at the end of September, or 30 percent of the total $416 million on 78 cases in the entire East bloc.

About 2.5 million Korean-Chinese will also help ease the labor shortage for small- and medium-sized Korean firms now hoping to advance into the country.

In diplomatic terms, the trade offices seem to have a long way to go before developing into a full relationship. Political analysts cited China's caution not to anger its long-time ally in North Korea.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said in this regard Thursday that its basic position toward South Korea remains unchanged. The spokeswoman, Li Jinhua, said in effect that China was ready to exchange nongovernmental trade offices but remained cool to the establishment of diplomatic relations, according to a recent report by the Associated Press.

The local analysts also said that trade offices should be leveled lower compared with the similar office in the Soviet Union established here prior to establishing a full diplomatic relationship.

Foreign Ministry officials here, however, said that the Chinese office, given the staff size and range of functions, will be no less important than that in the Soviet Union in its initial stage.

They also pointed to the political climate change surrounding the Korean peninsula as shown by the latest thaw in inter-Korean relations, and contend that the establishment of diplomatic relationship may be realized much faster than expected.

Negotiations for the trade office exchange were suspended since June 1989 but resumed during the Beijing Asian Games. In the consequent three rounds of talks which led to the agreement,the two sides appeared to have swapped formality and cause with substance and tangible benefits, the analysts concluded.

New Shipping Routes To Open

SK2010071690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0651 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 20 (YONHAP)—Four regular containership routes are expected to open between South Korea and China in December. The Korea Maritime and Port Administration (KMPA) said Saturday that Korea's Hung-a Shipping Co. and China Ocean Shipping Co. (COSCO) have applied to open the sea routes, as agreed in talks in Beijing in July.

Hung-a and COSCO have invested 500,000 U.S. dollars each in Co-Heung Shipping Co., which was picked by the Korea Maritime Consultative Committee on Saturday to operate on the routes. Co-Heung, headquartered in Hong Kong, hopes to put one 4,000-foot containership weekly on each of the four routes, linking Pusan and Inchon in Korea to Tianjin, Shanghai, Qingdao and Dalian.

KMPA is about to endorse the plan after careful study of Korea-China trade volume and shipping circumstances.

Sinokor Shipping Co., a joint venture between Korea's Tongnama Shipping Co. and Sinotrans Co. set up in June 1989, operates five or six times weekly on the Pusan-Inchon-Qingdao-Dalian-Xingjiang route and four times between Pusan and Shanghai.

New 'Arms Control Department' To Be Established

SK2010064290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0621 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 20 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Defense Ministry said Saturday it will set up an arms control department and a research center in preparation for arms reduction talks with North Korea. The Ministry will absorb the Office of Arms Control, currently attached to the headquarters of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and create an arms control research center to improve the handling of disarmament policy, an official at the Defense Ministry said.

The Ministry will also reorganize to effectively carry out six major projects, including the Korean fighter plan, and deal with arms control issues, he said. The reorganization is expected to take effect next January, after a presidential decree is revised.

Also to be created are a bureau of security cooperation to step up international security cooperation, especially with the United States, and a defense technology information center, which will come under the Defense Science Research Institute, he said.

DLP, PPD Leaders Discuss Political Issues

SK2010010190 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] Floor leaders of the ruling and opposition parties yesterday continued efforts to break the current political impasse.

Kim Yun-hwan of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) and Kim Yong-pae of the Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) held talks again yesterday. They met in public Thursday for the first time since President No Tae-u named Kim the new DLP floor leader last Friday.

The PPD leader, Kim Tae-chung, who has been on a hunger strike since Oct. 8, was quoted as saying that his party will decide to accept or reject the DLP proposals in a few days.

Meeting with leading dissidents at his hostipal room yesterday, Kim also hinted that he would end fasting soon.

The PPD is demanding that the DLP agree to full and immediate implementation of local autonomy and meet three other conditions before PPD lawmakers withdraw their resignations.

The two differed on the timing of autonomy and allowing political parties to put up candidates in local elections.

The DLP floor leader, granted full power to negotiate with the opposition, suggested that the ruling camp implement full local autonomy before No's term expires in February 1993.

He proposed that local councils be elected in the first half of 1991 and that mayoral and gubernatorial elections be held a year later.

Kim said political parties should be allowed to nominate candidates only in large units—special cities and provinces.

For smaller local bodies, the ruling party is against party nomination, he said.

After the meeting, Kim told reporters the DLP was studying the matter of holding the mayoral and gubernatorial elections around the time of the next parliamentary elections, slated for the spring of 1992, or simultaneously with the elections.

Opposition Head Calls Off Hunger Strike

SK2010042690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0419 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 20 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Tae-chung ended his hunger strike and declared victory for his goals Saturday, eating for the first time in 13 days. Some 40 lawmakers from Kim's Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) also stopped fasting. A PPD caucus resolved to recommend to the 67-year-old Kim that he end the fast because the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) had accepted their demands.

Kim began his hunger strike on Oct. 8 to force the DLP to meet four demands, including full implementation of local autonomy and a pledge not to introduce a cabinet system of government. PPD lawmakers joined their leader on the hunger strike early this week.

Kim said the hunger strike had reaped a big harvest and asked party members to struggle to fully accomplish their goals. "We made the ruling party, which had ignored efforts for political settlement for more than three months, respond positively and achieved some fruit in the matter of deterring the DLP from revising the Constitution for a cabinet government system, implementation of local autonomy and the inspection of civilians by the Defense Security Command," he said.

PPD lawmakers said in a separate statement that negotiations with the DLP were incomplete and a return to the National Assembly would not be considered until the political problems were settled. Although the PPD decided to stage a "second-phase struggle" if the negotiations on allowing party nomination in local elections is not settled satisfactorily, it is expected that politics will return to normal next week.

The parties agreed on the autonomy of cities with a population of 300,000 or more, but differ on smaller administrative units. The DLP maintains its opposition to members of local councils having party affiliation, but the PPD insists on party nomination of candidates.

The parties have agreed to hold local government elections within one year of local council elections and simultaneously with National Assembly elections, but the DLP maintains that political parties should not be allowed to participate in the elections, the PPD floor leader said.

The parties are likely to complete their negotiations on local autonomy early next week and agree on normalization of the National Assembly at around the end of this month. The DLP will arrange a meeting between President No Tae-u and Kim after the local autonomy problem is settled.

Release of Reverend Mun Ik-hwan Reported

SK2010130490 Seoul YONHAP in English 1220 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Chonju, South Korea, Oct. 20 (YONHAP)—The Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, 72, a Protestant preacher imprisoned for his unauthorized visit to North Korea, was released Saturday on a decision by the local prosecutor's office to suspend his penal servitude. Senior prosecutor Mun Chong-su of the Chonju District Prosecutor's Office said the decision was taken in response to an appeal from the governor of the Chonju Prison, who suggested the release for reasons of the inmate's health.

The chief warden of the prison reportedly asked for the release of the dissident activist, saying the Rev. Mun could not continue serving in the prison for his old age, heart disease and hypothyroidism. The Rev. Mun, who had been sentenced to a seven-year imprisonment, was hospitalized at a local hospital here on Oct. 13 soon after the condition of his diseases took turn for the worse.

Asked by some journalists to comment on the on-going South-North contacts, the Protestant preacher said, "It is very pleasing to hear that the barrier has been bored. Exchanges of (such common people as) musicians and booters have been most desired." The Rev. Mun also said, "The most hopeful way of contact between the South and North is multi-faceted exchange. When I met North Korean President Kim Il-song, we discussed the need to handle politico-military talks simultaneously with exchanges. It was the best achievement of my visit to Pyongyang."

Asked to reveal what he would do at home, the Rev. Mun said, "Prosecutors advised me to devote my time to the treatment of my diseases only. (But if I am pressed to do so,) I would rather return to the prison."

The Rev. Mun was arrested on April 13 last year upon his return from his "unauthorized" visit to North Korea. He has been one of the three South Korean citizens jailed for unauthorized visits to Pyongyang and whose release has been tenaciously demanded by the North Korean negotiators at South-North prime ministers meeting as a virtual precondition for a "smooth progress" of the dialogue.

Meanwhile, opposition parties welcomed the release of the Rev. Mun in their official comments issued later Saturday. The leading opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) took the Rev. Mun's release as "part of an effort" of the government to solve issues pending between South and North Korea. It called on the government to release others jailed for "outlawed visits" to North Korea with a view to making the inter-Korean high-level talks "an epoch-making event" for the national reunification.

Students Attack Security Office, Later Arrested

SK2210082190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0812 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 22 (YONHAP)—Radical students demanding that South Korea's information agencies be disbanded threw more than 20 firebombs at the headquarters of the Agency for National Security Planning (formerly the KCIA) in Seoul on Monday morning and were arrested by guards. Damage done to the powerful security agency in the attack by the eight students was kept secret, other than partial scorching of a motorcycle parked at a nearby police box.

The collegians, calling themselves a suicide corps of a group that advocates a workers' coalition for socialistic reform, drove up to the NSP building in two cars. They tossed the firebombs and then torched the cars before strewing over 100 leaflets on the ground. They were seized by police and guards in front of the building after two blank shots were fired and are now in NSP custody. Nothing further has been revealed by the police except that the students planned the attack on Oct. 18 at Hanyang University.

The pamphlets accuse the government of "deceptive" measures, such as reshuffling some cabinet ministers and reviving the NSP's supervisory functions following press reports that the Defense Security Command (DSC) was spying on civilians. They demanded the immediate disbandment of the DSC, the NSP and the National Police Headquarters, the resignation of "people-suppressing" president No Tae-u and establishment of a "democratic" government.

Police To Use Firearms To Defend Stations

SK2010005990 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] Police officers have now been instructed to use firearms when police substations are attacked.

In an official message sent to stations and substations in Seoul, the Seoul metropolitan Police Bureau said the home minister described as "negligence of duties" an incident in a substation in Mapo, western Seoul, where officers on duty did not fire warning shots, even though the were under attack.

The bureau said police officers must apprehend attackers by firing warning, shots in response to surprise under attack.

The message was apparently referring to the incident in which 20 men believed to be college students launched a firebomb attack on the Taehung Police Substation in the afternoon of last Sept. 27.

The instruction is construed as a police determination to take strong measures, including the use of firearms, against demonstrations. Critics have cautioned that indiscreet use of firearms could cause casualties.

Regarding Song Kap-sok, chairman of the radical student group Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives], who disappeared after holding a news conference at Konguk University in eastern Seoul last Sunday, the message said the police bureau has been severely censured for failing to arrest the elusive Song.

"Each station is obligated to arrest Song if he shows up at a university within jurisdiction, and anyone found to take a luke-warm attitude will be punished," the message warned.

Accusations of Police Torture 'Rising Fast'

SK2110023590 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 21 Oct 90 p 3

[Excerpts] Criminal suspects protesting the police's use of torture is rising fast since President No Tae-u declared an all-out war against "crime and disorder" in his Oct. 13 special statement. At least eight people, held in police custody in three separate criminal cases, recently claimed that they were tortured by police who asked them to confess to the crimes which they said they did not commit.

In one of the three cases, Kong Pyong-chin, a 20-year-old man living in Mangwon-dong in western Seoul, said yesterday that he was beaten up by police officials for about two hours after he was taken to the Kangso Police Thursday afternoon. [passage omitted]

But Kangso Police flatly denied Kong's claim, saying that the bruises were caused when he resisted police arrest Thursday afternoon.

In the second case of alleged police torture, a 32-year-old man, Pak Chon-po, under custody of Seoul's Chongyang Police on robbery charges, claimed that he and two others were subjected to water torture for two days and three nights beginning Oct. 14 by officials at Chonghwa police substation. He said that he was denied sleep by police investigators, while undergoing various kinds of torture.

In a third case, four middle-school girls were beaten by police investigators after they were taken to the Seoul's Nowon Police Wednesday, their parents claimed yesterday. The police investigators slapped the girls on the cheeks and pulled their hair. One of the girls lost a handful of hair, they said.

In another case, a 17-year-old boy, identified by his family name of Mun, who was arrested by Seoul's Yongsan Police on robbery and rape charges, also claimed that he was beaten up by police investigators. Mun said that he, unable to endure the beatings further, confessed to the crimes which he did not commit, as police investigators demanded. [passage omitted]

Mun said that he deserves somewhat harsh treatment by the police because he committed sins but if the police ask people to confess to the crimes which they actually did not commit, many innocent people have to serve jail terms.

Poll Shows Opposition to DSC Surveillance

SK2210041090 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 14 Oct 90 p 1

[Excerpts] It has been shown that 33 percent of the people of our country said that the military's surveillance on civilians must be allowed only in handling espionage cases and that 43.8 percent said it must be banned altogether.

In a survey in which CHUNGANG ILBO polled 1,000 men and women on 11-12 October, people showed a very negative response to the Defense Security Command's [DSC] surveillance on civilians. [passage omitted]

Also, 34.4 percent said that the DSC must be allowed to handle only espionage cases, in an effort to prevent its surveillance on civilians; 30.3 percent said that the DSC must be disbanded and that the espionage unit of each service of the armed forces must handle espionage cases; and 12.8 percent approved of a plan to strengthen the defense minister's control over the DSC.

Party for Peace and Democracy President Kim Tae-chung is on a hunger strike, demanding that the ruling circles give up their plan to revise the Constitution to favor a cabinet system, and that they implement a local autonomy system. In connection with this, 25.6 percent said that his action "is appropriate," and 41.5 percent said that it "is not appropriate." [passage omitted]

The opposition lawmakers have refused to attend National Assembly sessions in protest of the July railroading of bills by the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP]. In connection with this, 55.4 percent said that they must "unconditionally attend Assembly sessions," and 22.7 percent said that they "do not have to do so." In this way, people expressed a strong hope for the normalization of the Assembly operation. [passage omitted]

In connection with the allegation that the DLP's plan to adopt a cabinet system is an attempt for long-term office, 36.9 percent said that the allegation is correct, 36.9 percent said that it is not correct, and 40.2 percent said that they do not know.

In connection with President No Tae-u's promise to stabilize the political, economic, and social situation before the end of this year, a mere 9.8 percent said that it will be stabilized, and 56.8 percent said that it will not.

No Tae-u Announces Plans for New Police Agency

SK2210082390 Seoul YONHAP in English 0808 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Seoul, Oct. 22 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u announced on Monday that he will set up a new government department to fight "anti-social crime" and restore order next year.

Speaking at ceremonies marking the 45th anniversary of the South Korean police force, the chief executive, who declared war on crime on Oct. 13, declared the 1990s the decade for "raising the status of the nation's policemen." [passage omitted]

Government officials said the new department, to be called "police agency," would basically be an expanded and reorganized National Police Headquarters (NPH). The NPH is currently a division inside the Home Ministry.

The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) and the government have drafted a bill to separate the NPH from the home ministry and make it independent and to set up a police committee in the ministry to formulate policies relating to police operation.

The officials said the DLP draft might cause strong protests from the opposition as it differs greatly from a bill aimed at neutralization of the police that was agreed on by the three opposition parties before two of them joined the ruling party in January.

Customs Office 'Blacklists' Frequent Travelers

SK2210071490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0642 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 22 (YONHAP)—The Office of Customs Administration (OCA) has compiled a blacklist of some 4,000 people, classified as "excessive pleasure-seeking travelers abroad," who it will subject to stringent customs checks.OCA director Yi Su-hyu told OCA regional chiefs Monday that people who enjoy traveling abroad should be carefully watched to eliminate decadence as part of president No Tae-u's war on crime. The 4,000 people on the OCA list frequently travel abroad to play golf, fish, hunt and shop, returning with "excessive quantities" of foreign goods and often go on trips with little purpose, he said.

Yi directed the district chiefs to set up 30 task forces in Seoul and five other special cities to uproot the trade in smuggled goods. OCA will inform the office of the national tax administration of people who continue spending excessively on trips abroad, he said.

Burma

SLORC Dissolves 'Illegal' Monk Organizations

BK2010081490 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0630 GMT 20 Oct 90

["Order 6/90 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, dated 20 October 1990, the third day of the waxing moon of Tazaungmon, Burmese Era 1352"]

[Text] 1. There is freedom of worship for various religions in the Union of Myanmar [Burma], such as Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, and Hinduism. Of these religions, Buddhism has the following nine major sangha [order of Buddhist monks] sects:

The Thudama sect; Shwegyin sect; Dhammanu Dhamma Maha Dwana Nikaya sect; Dhamma Vinnayanu Loma Mula Dwara Nikaya sect; Anauk Chaung Dwara sect; Weluwun Nikaya sect; Subummika Maha Thadipatan Ngettwin sect; Gana Wimu Guru sect; and Dhamma Yuti Nikaya Mahayin sect.

2. A total of 1,280 sangha sambuddhiya [recognized monk] representatives of these nine major Buddhist sects met for four days from 24 to 27 May 1980—from the 11th to 14th days of the waxing moon of Nayon, Burmese Era 1342—at the Sixth Buddhist Synod Cave at the Kaba Aye Hills in Rangoon and held the first meeting of various Buddhist sects with the aim of purifying, perpetuating, and propagating the Sasana [Buddhism]. The meeting enacted basic rules and regulations and procedures for Sangha organizations, the Vinaya code of conduct, and settlement of disputes over Vinaya.

3. In accordance with these basic rules, regulations, and procedures, the State Ovadacariya Board, the State Central Working Committee of Sangha, the State Sangha Maha Nayaka Committee, and Sangha Maha Nayaka committees in states, divisions, townships, and village tracts were formed, and these sangha organizations have been working systematically and steadfastly to purify, perpetuate, and propagate Buddhism from all three aspects of religion—Pariyati, Paribati, and Pariveda [theory of Buddhist scriptures, application of scriptures, and propagation of faith, respectively].

4. However, it has been found that, at present, various sangha organizations, such as the Sangha Sammaggi Organization, the Young Monk Organization, the Monastery Abbots Sangha Organization, which are outside of these nine major Sangha sects and its organizations at various levels, have been formed illegally and operating illegally. In scrutinizing the activities of these illegal sangha organizations, they are found not to be serving the propagation of Pariyati, Paribati, and Pariveda; they are engaged in political activities that do not befit the Buddhist religion.

5. These illegal sangha organizations not only do not accept the supervision of various levels of sangha organizations engaged in purification, perpetuation, and propagation of Buddhism, but they are found to be engaged in activities that could cause disintegration of sangha organizations by threatening and blackmailing Sangha Maha Nayaka [senior abbots]. Furthermore, these illegal organizations through their deeds, words, and publications are threatening, blackmailing, and boycotting the state government; they are undermining law and order, peace, and tranquility.

6. Therefore, the SLORC, in the interests of purification, perpetuation, and propagation of Buddhism and of maintenance of law and order and peace and tranquility, issues the following order below:

A. Apart from the legal nine major sangha sects and sangha organizations under their supervision, other sangha organizations, such as the Sangha Sammaggi Organization, the Young Buddhist Monks Organization, the Abbots Sangha Samagga Organization and similar organizations, are dissolved effective midnight on 20 October, the third day of the waxing moon of Tazaungbon, Buddhist Era 1352.

Those who violate this order shall have no right to be sambuti sangha [recognized monks].

B. Political parties are also prohibited from working under the pretext of religion for the benefit of their own party. Action shall be taken under the existing laws against political parties violating this order.

7. This order shall have the force of law.

Signed: Saw Maung, senior general and chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council

Order Gives Martial Law Powers to Commanders

BK2110082490 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0710 GMT 21 Oct 90

["Order 7/90 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; dated 21 October 1990, the fourth day of the waxing moon of Tazaungmon, Burmese Era 1352"]

[Text] 1. In the interests of the purifying, perpetuating, and propagating Buddhism and of maintaining law and order and peace and tranquility, the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has issued Order 6/90 on 20 October 1990 dissolving illegal religious bodies, such as the Sangha Sammaggi Organization, the Young Buddhist Monks Organization, the Abbots Sangha Samagga Organization, and similar organizations effective midnight on 20 October, the third day of the waxing moon of Tazaungbon, Myanmar Era 1352.

In addition, the order states that those persons who refuse to abolish their organizations and continue to act shall have no right to be sambuti sangha [recognized monks].

2. During a recent interrogation it was revealed that a monk had undertaken political activities. The monk, who was head of an organization named the Eindawya Column as well as the secretary of the United Strike Front [thabeik tatpaungsu] in Mandalay during the crisis period of 1988, revealed he had persuaded a political party to work for the quick transfer of power. In addition, he personally organized several monks to work for the quick transfer of power to that political party and for the toppling of the SLORC government. Similarly, several persons who assume the role of sambuti sangha were also found to have been involved in party politics.

3. The persons who assume the role of sambuti sangha to operate inside the illegal monk organizations have not been performing the duties of the Sangha, such as the Pariyatti, Paribatti, and Pariveda duties [theory of Buddhist scriptures, application of scriptures, and propagation of faith, respectively] and instead have been engaging in activities that disrupt the purification, perpetuation, and propagation of Buddhism.

4. This being the case, commanders of military commands have been empowered to investigate, expose, and take effective action against such persons.

5. In addition, to take legal action, if necessary, against these persons, the commanders of military commands have also been empowered with Martial Law judicial powers to deal effectively and quickly with the court cases filed against those persons.

The ruling of these court cases shall be in accordance with the rights bestowed under the Martial Law Order 2/89 issued by the SLORC on (?10) June 1989.

6. This order shall have the force of law.

Signed: Saw Maung, senior general and chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council

172 Rangoon Monks Support End of Boycott

BK2110152890 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Monks from some monasteries in Yangon [Rangoon] Division have signed a pledge in support of the agreement by monks belonging to the Sangha Sammagi headquarters of the Laychein Lay ward of Mandalay to end their religious boycott.

From midnight on 20 October, when Order 6/90 by the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] became effective, until 1800 on 21 October, a total of 172 monks—headed by U Thu Mingala of Maha Gandayon Monastery, U Tiloka of Insein Ywama Pariyatti Monastery, U Tisingha of Ahlone Aung Mingala Taikthit Monastery, U Pyinya Thiri of Sanchaung Pariyatti Monastery, U Kontinnya of Bahan Maha Withokdayon Monastery, U Kalyana of Naynattha Monastery, and U Ottama of Aung Mingala Theikdi—signed a pledge in support of the action by some monks in Mandalay who signed a pledge to end the religious boycott.

'Hardline' Monks Reportedly Ignore Ultimatum

BK2210103190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1012 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Bangkok, Oct 22 (AFP)—Hardline Burmese monks have ignored the ruling junta's ultimatum to end their religious boycott according to sources reached in Rangoon on Monday. Heavily armed troops are still surrounding several monasteries in southwest Mandalay, the centre of the protest, the sources said. The radical monks had been given until midnight on Saturday to end the boycott and although a small group in the city officially called off their protest on Sunday several thousand are believed to be continuing.

Simmering tension between the junta and monks rose following reports that two monks and two students were gunned down in Mandalay in August when troops opened fire on anti-government demonstrators in a crackdown to silence demands that power be handed over to the National League for Democracy (NLD) who swept the may general elections. "Things are the same as they were before the Saturday deadline. The hardliners are still holding out but as yet there are no signs of the troops being ordered in," said one source.

The SLORC denied anyone had been killed but monks and abbots in Mandalay began a boycott of the Armed Forces, refusing to accept alms from soldiers or their families or to carry out religious ceremonies for them until certain conditions were met.

In a bid to end the protest, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), the junta's official name, gave local commanders permission to use full martial law powers. Under martial law, monks could be brought before military tribunals for activities considered disruptive to Buddhism but there have been no reports of commanders using the powers as yet against the protesters.

The SLORC announced on Sunday night that 29 monks in Mandalay had agreed to end the boycott and held a prayer ceremony at the Nanmyo Thein Monastery to officially signal the end of the protest. But with an estimated 10,000 monks in the city involved in the boycott, sources said there was confusion as to how many monks the 29 represented. "The fact that 29 have renounced the action does not mean that all the monks in Mandalay have called off their boycott," said the source.

The conditions demanded by the monks included the release of all clergy held in prison, the release of the names of the four people killed, the banning of troops from religious property and a public apology from SLORC Chairman General Saw Maung. None of those conditions were met in Sunday's ceremonies in Mandalay with the 29 monks and analysts say the hardliners amongst the protesters would hold out until they were.

"No one is quite sure quite what is going to happen now. But it is quite likely that there will be an increase in the number of arrests," said one Bangkok-based observer.

The monk's action spread to Rangoon and a heavy troop presence has been reported on the streets over the past few days.

On Sunday the SLORC announced that 125 monks from five monasteries in the capital had withdrawn their support for the boycott.

Travellers reaching here from Rangoon have reported that the junta has been trying to stop the movement from spreading by bribing some monasteries and their senior abbots. There have been reliable and consistent reports of cash, television sets and other gifts being given by government officials to abbots to make sure they would not join in the boycott.

Myo Nyunt Attends Religious Meeting 19 Oct

BK2010133090 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Excerpts] A coordination meeting to explain religious matters to monks in charge of religious organizations at different levels of Yangon [Rangoon] Division was held at 1200 today at the Great Mahapatana Cave at the Kaba Aye Hill. The meeting was attended by state Ovadasariya sanghas [senior abbots] residing in Yangon, state Sangha Mahanayaka committee sanghas, central executive committee sanghas, chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka committee and members, sanghas from township Sangha Nayaka committees of Yangon Division, and sanghas of other sects totaling about 250.

The meeting was also attended by Major General Myo Nyunt, commander and chairman of Rangoon Division Law and Order Restoration Council; divisional commanders from No. 22 and No. 55 Light Infantry Divisions; the mayor of Yangon and chairman of Yangon City Development Committee; the director general of the Religious Affairs Department and responsible personnel; regional military commanders; members of Rangoon Division Law and Order Restoration Council; chairmen of township zones and township law and order restoration councils; and invited guests. [passage omitted]

Next, Agga Maha Pandita Badanta Kawthanla, chairman of Yangon Division Sangha Nayaka committee, explained various rules and regulations concerning the Sangha Nayaka committee at different levels. In his speech, he said since the sanghas present are working members, there is no need to explain the benefits and importance of working with one united sangha committee for the propagation of faith. Basic rules and regulations have been laid down for various religious committees, and they must be applied in solving religious affairs. Chapter two of the Basic Law of Religious Committees clearly states there must be only one sangha committee formed according to the Buddhist teaching.

Therefore, in performing religious duties, sangha committees at different levels must perform according to Buddhist teaching. Rules and regulations have also been issued to solve religious crimes and People's Assembly Law nine has been proclaimed by the government [of the Burma Socialist Program Party] to protect these rules. It is clearly stated a six-month jail sentence will be given to those not abiding by the decision of laws, a three-year jail sentence for posing as a novice or monk, and a five-year jail sentence for violating laws regarding anti-Buddhism [Adhamma Warda].

Governmental authority has enabled us to propagate our faith, purify our religion, and eliminate imposters, false monks, and anti-Buddhism. [passage omitted]

The meeting ended at 1400 after chanting prayers.

SLORC Member Addresses Ceremony 21 Oct

BK2110150990 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Major General Tun Kyi, chairman of the Mandalay Division Law and Order Restoration Council, commander of the Central Military Command, beseeched for an end to the religious boycott to the monks headed by Abhidasa Maha Rata Guru Bhatdhanta Zatiga Biwuntha who is the abbot of Moke-haung Monastery and the ovadacariya [adviser] senior monk to the state. The ceremony was held at the Dhamma hall of the Nanmyo Sutaungpyi Pagoda at 1330 today. [passage omitted]

At the ceremony, Major General Tun Kyi first told the senior monks, headed by Abhidasa Maha Rata Guru Bhatdhanta Zatiga Biwuntha, the abbot of Moke-haung Monastery and the state ovadacariya senior monk, that he prostrated before them ready to receive their judgment. The senior monks said they accepted the apology and and the respects offered.

Major General Tun Kyi then asked for the end to the boycott. The senior monks said that they accepted the appeal for an end to the boycott.

The senior monks later proceeded to the Nanmyo Thein Monastery to hold a ceremony to mark the end of the boycott. At the monastery the senior monks recited Kamawa prayers and marked the end of the boycott by handing over a note. The ceremony ended at 1430 after soft drinks were offered to the monks.

SLORC Holds 106th News Conference 19 Oct

BK2010122890 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Report on the 106th news conference of the Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, held at the Ministry of Defense in Rangoon on 19 October]

[Excerpts] The Information Committee of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] held its 106th news conference with local and foreign journalists at the reception hall of the Ministry of Defense at 1300 today. [passage omitted]

Explaining the call for talks to resolve issues proposed by the political parties, the Information Committee says the question remains open. The committee noted the issue of talks to resolve problems was discussed as a major item at meeting no. 5/90 of the Central Exectuvie Committee of the National League for Democracy [NLD]. The NLD agenda includes a plan to propose holding talks with the SLORC. The Information Committee said it had already explained this issue at the 105th news conference, during which it was stated that, as the SLORC is not a political party, it will not discuss political matters outside the framework of the law. After the news conference had been held, the NLD held its meeting no. 6/90 which, it was learned, also discussed the question of talks to resolve problems as a major item. [passage omitted]

The NLD meeting no. 5/90 emphasized the four points contained in the Gandhi Declaration. The first point is to convene the People's Assembly as soon as possible; the second point is to transfer power according to a provisional constitution they have drafted; the third point is to draft a new constitution; and the last point is to hold talks. According to the above-mentioned declaration, the foremost political program is not the drafting of a new constitution which would be a key to the new state, but the transfer of power. [passage omitted]

Next, the Information Committee said one of the foremost tasks the parties should attend to is the financial issue, which was explained by secretary-1 of the SLORC at the 104th news conference. People's Assembly representatives are required to explain their financial accounts according to the law. As veteran journalists know, it is not enough to describe the expense account in financial matters; the source of cash contributions, amount spent, and remaining balance should be systematically accounted for. There should be systematic accounting of expenses made from party funds. [passage omitted]

The Information Committee discussed the Voice of America report carried on 11 October, entitled: The Three-Day Meeting of Major Party Concludes. The committee said it would like to explain a point in the report. The report quoted Western media reports from Yangon [Rangoon] in saying that the NLD, which had won a landslide victory in the May general elections, had decided to work more forcefully to obtain power. In connection with this broadcast, responsible persons from the NLD—U Lwin, U Kyaw Min, U Khin Maung Swe, and U Soe Thein—were interrogated. They said the meeting of their Central Executive Committee was held on 5, 8, and 9 October. After the meeting, U Khin Maung Thwin and U Soe Thein explained the outcome of the meeting to foreign correspondents while U Lwin and U Kyaw Min briefed personnel from foreign embassies. They said they did not send their news by direct contact to foreign news agencies. We have in our hand letters of pledge signed by these four persons.

Similarly, at 2015 on 19 September, the BBC carried a report saying the NLD Central Executive Committee had decided to continue their activities under the league's collective leadership and that U Aung Shwe was chosen as NLD spokesman. The report also mentioned NLD programs after U Kyi Maung and U Chit Khaing had been detained by authorities. The interrogated NLD officials said they did not send the report on these matters directly to foreign news agencies. However, the Information Committee said they know some NLD members have direct contact with foreign news agencies and have been making statements and sending reports.

First U Hla Kyi of REUTER, U Maung Maung of JIJI, and U Hla Htwe of ANTARA asked the Information Committee to confirm whether legal action had been taken against U Ohn Kyaing of the NLD in Mandalay Division and asked about the sentence passed on him, charges filed against him, and what kind of court tried them. The committee said the legal action was taken against U Ohn Kyaing, member of the NLD Central Executive Committee in Mandalay Division, and U Thein Dan, member of the Mandalay Division NLD Organizing Committee. They have been sentenced to seven years imprisonment by a military tribunal for inciting unrest by writing false reports about the unrest which occured in Mandalay on 8 August 1990 and for inciting unrest as reported by the 8 September 1990 issue of the WORKING PEOPLE's DAILY.

Next, U Myo Thant, correspondent from ANSA and YOMIURI, noted in his supplication to the State Maha Nayaka Committee yesterday Senior General Saw Maung had said that UG [underground] organizations under Bo Kyin Maung of the Burma Communist Party [BCP] are participating in monk and student movements. U Myo Thant said he would like to know about the strength of organizations under the BCP and the number and strength of monk boycott centers. The committee replied that although the armed strength of the BCP had disintegrated to an almost insignificant level, they still have foreign currencies, cash, and gems which they unjustly robbed from the people and are using in sending UG's to infiltrate mass and class organizations. It replied it is difficult to assess the strength of the infiltration of these UG's. The committee said it has considerable information on infiltrated organizations and that there is no single monk boycott center in Mandalay. The committee explained the religious boycott was called by the Sangha Sammaggi following the incident of 8 August 1990 in Mandalay, that offerings from military organizations are not accepted by monks, and that while the term boycott is used there is no boycott center. [passage omitted]

U Nay Win of ASAHI SHIMBUN asked for clarification of a rumor that four persons—Myo Khin, Khin Sai, Sithu, and Kyaw Htay—were killed when security units tried to control disturbances inside the Insein jail and for a true account of the incident. The committee explained that on 18 Septemeber some inmates staged a hunger strike at the Insein jail to protest the anniversary of the coup by the SLORC, security units from outside absolutely did not enter the prison and, they do not have permission to enter. The hunger strike ended after one or two days after it was solved by Insein prison personnel. The committee explained the responsible prison personnel absolutely did not use weapons in resolving the issue; it was resolved peacefully. It explained further that the rumor of the death of four persons was absolutely not true; it was not a prison riot, but a hunger strike by a few people. According to prison regulations, three or four persons who organized the hunger strike were transferred to other prisons. The rumor was circulated and exaggerated when the relatives of the transferred inmates visited them and could not find them at the Insein jail.

The committee explained that current rumors are fabrications by those who want to create disturbances through foreign broadcasting stations that are exaggerating and broadcasting accounts contained in illegal publications.

The news conference ended at 1400.

Saw Maung, Others Tour Mandalay 19-21 Oct

BK2110144490 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], in the company of Lieutenant General Phone Myint, minister of home and religious affairs; Major General Tin U, SLORC secretary-2; Brigadier General Thein Win, colonel of the Air Staff; Brigadier General Myo Thant, director of communications of the Ministry of Defense; Brigadier General Kyaw Win, director of Medical Corps; and responsible officials of the SLORC Office left Yangon [Rangoon] by a military plane at 1215 on 19 October and arrived in Mandalay airport at 1350. [passage omitted]

From the airport, Senior General Saw Maung and his party proceeded to the guest house in the Mandalay palatial compound where they stayed overnight.

At 0730 on 20 October, a meeting was held in the conference hall of the guest house in the Mandalay palatial compound, and Senior General Saw Maung called on those present at the meeting to join in the endeavors aimed at purifying, perpetuating, and propagating the Sasana [Buddhism], making law and order and regional peace and tranquility prevail, and accomplishing the constructive tasks of the nation. Attending the meeting were Major General Tun Kyi, commander of the Central Military Command and chairman of the Mandalay Division Law and Order Restoration Council; Brigadier General Hla Shwe, commander of the 33d Light Infantry Division; Colonel Aung Pe, deputy commander of the Central Military Command; Colonel Saw Tun deputy commander of the 33d Light Infantry Division; Colonel Than Tin, chairman of Sagaing Division Law and Order Restoration Council; staff officers of the different military commands and divisions; and responsible officials. [passage omitted]

At 1150, Senior General Saw Maung and his party, in the company of Brigadier General Kyaw Min, commander of the Northwest Military Command, and Colonel Than Tin, chairman of Sagaing Division Law and Order Restoration Council, left Mandalay by helicopter and arrived in Monywa at 1230. [passage omitted]

Later, Senior General Saw Maung held a meeting with Brigadier General Kyaw Min, commander of the Northwest Military Command, and staff officials; Colonel Than Tin, chairman of Sagaing Division Law and Order Restoration Council; and chairmen of township zone law and order restoration councils at the Chindwin Yeiktha of the 16th Light Infantry Regiment. At the meeting, Senior General Saw Maung called on those present at the meeting to join in the endeavors aimed at purifying, perpetuating, and propagating the Sasana, making law and order and regional peace and tranquility prevail, and accomplishing the constructive tasks of the nation. [passage omitted]

Later, Senior General Saw Maung inspected by helicopter the construction of buildings at the Northwest Military Command and left for Mandalay. He arrived in Mandalay at 1435. [passage omitted]

Saw Maung Pays Respects to Abbots in Mingun

BK2210142790 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpts] At 0935 on 22 October, Senior General Saw Maung, chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], and his party left Mandalay for the Mingala timber port in Sagaing township by a ferry boat, Pinlon, which belonged to the Inland Water Transport Enterprise. On arrival at that port, they were received by Colonel Saw Tun, deputy commander of the 33d Light Infantry Division, staff officers, and chairmen of Sagaing Township Zone and Sagaing Township Law and Order Restoration Councils.

From there, Senior General Saw Maung and his party proceeded to the Maha Bandoola Dhammayon praying hall of the Dhammanara Monastery in Mingun village to pay respects to the Reverend U Visitta Thara Biwuntha, Agha Maha Pandita Tipitikatara Dhammabandha Karika Abhidaza Maharata Guru [religious title], and head of the State Maha Nayaka Committee, and other monks. After paying respects, the senior reverend delivered a sermon. [passage omitted]

Later, Senior General Saw Maung and the others there presented the senior abbot and the other monks with some goods.

In accordance with the advice of the Reverend U Visitta Thara Biwuntha, Senior General Saw Maung and his party later proceeded to Abhidaza Abhidhamma hall of the Tipitaka Vikaya Monastery on Mong Mit Hill, Mingun range, and paid respects to the abbot, U Jotika. They also donated some goods. Next, on behalf of Senior General Saw Maung, Major General Tin U, SLORC secretary-2, donated some money to the monastery.

Later, senior general and his party left Mingun by boat and arrived back in Mandalay at noon.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

National Front Wins With Two-Thirds Majority

BK2210080590 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The Barisan Nasional [National Front] coalition has been returned to power with a convincing two-thirds majority in Malaysia's parliament. It also succeeded in forming governments in all the states in peninsular Malaysia except Kelantan in the country's eighth general election. The coalition won 127 of the 180 parliamentary seats. The Democratic Action Party [DAP] took 20, Parti Islam [PAS] 7, Semangat '46 [Spirit of '46 party] 7, Parti Bersatu Sabah [PBS] 14, and independents 4. The Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah [Islamic Unity Movement] comprising PAS, Semangat 46, and Berjasa [Malaysian Islamic Council Front] made a complete sweep of all the parliamentary and state seats in Kelantan.

Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir, commenting on the results, said that the Barisan Nasional had performed better than in the 1986 general election. He said that parochial sentiments in Kelantan and Sabah had enabled the opposition to win seats in the two states. He said federal relations with Kelantan would be affected. Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir admitted he had no experience in dealing with opposition state governments. The prime minister added that he had to work out something to get Kelantanese representation in the cabinet.

Two ministers lost their seats—Minister of Defense Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen in Kota Baharu and the minister of science, technology, and environment, Datuk Amar Stephen Yong in Kuching. The rest were all returned.

Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir was returned with an increased majority of more than 12,000 votes in the Kubang Pasu Constituency in Kedah State. The biggest upset for Barisan Nasional was the defeat of Penang Chief Minister Dr. Lim Chong Eu. He lost to DAP Secretary General Lim Kit Siang in the Padang Kota State constituency.

Two key opposition leaders defeated by the Barisan Nasional were Semangat 46 Deputy President Datuk Rais Yatim and DAP Chairman Dr. Chen Man Hin. They lost in the Jelebu and Seremban constituencies respectively in Negeri Sembilan State.

The prime minister said a new cabinet will be formed after several problems have been rectified. Speaking at a news conference in Kuala Lumpur after the announcement of the Barisan Nasional's victory in the Malaysian general election, he said the need for the new cabinet was not pressing as there was still a caretaker government. The prime minister dismmissed speculations of a major cabinet reshuffle because he said most ministers had performed well.

Parti Semangat '46 President Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said he accepted his party's defeat in yesterday's general election as the will of Allah. In a statement issued in Kuala Lumpur, he asked party supporters to accept the defeat with patience. Tengku Razaleigh said the opposition Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah and Gagasan Rakyat [People's Might] would continue to struggle to uphold justice and the healthy and responsible democratic practice.

The result of the Gua Musang parliamentary constituency in Kelantan was the last to be announced at 1155 [0355 GMT] this morning. Parti Semangat '46 President Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah retained the seat by defeating Haji Wan Ismail Wan Ibrahim of the Barisan Nasional by a majority of 13,339 votes. With the victory, Semangat '46 has won eight parliamentary seats.

Between 60 and 70 percent of the nearly 8 million voters turned out during the weekend polling which began on Saturday in the remote parts of Sabah and Sarawak. The election came after 10 days of [word indistinct] campaigning by some 1,165 candidates. For the first time ever, the general election was observed by a 12-member group of Commonwealth led by former Jamaican Foreign Minister Dudley Thompson.

Early Winners Noted

BK2210005190 Hong Kong AFP in English 1945 GMT 21 Oct 90

[By Mervin Nambiar]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 22 (AFP)—Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed's National Front retained an overwhelming majority in Malaysia's general election Sunday after a bitter campaign that featured previously taboo race and religious issues.

With 166 seats in the 180-member Dewan Rakyat, the lower house of parliament, declared, Dr. Mahathir's 10-party coalition had taken 121 to earn the right to govern multi-racial Malaysia for another five years. The prime minister had urged voters to give him a strong mandate to ensure continued development. The National Front held 133 of the 177 seats in the old parliament.

Dr. Mahathir, 64, however suffered several setbacks, particularly in northern Kelantan state where an opposition alliance of former Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah swept all parliamentary and state seats.

The opposition also came close to topping the National Front in Penang state where Chief Minister Lim Chong

Eu, bidding for his seventh term in the state assembly, was beaten by his arch-rival Lim Kit Siang, leader of the mostly ethnic Chinese Democratic Action Party (DAP). Dr. Mahathir also saw two of his most senior cabinet colleagues, Defence Minister Rithauddeen and Science, Environment and Technology Minister Stephen Yong crash out.

But Mr. Razaleigh, who brought virtually every opposition party into an alliance in his bid to drive Dr. Mahathir from office, saw his challenge fizzle out elsewhere. Rais Yatim, Mr. Razaleigh's deputy in his Semangat '46 (Spirit of '46), which spearheaded the opposition alliance of Moslem moderates, fundamentalists and ethnic Chinese was defeated in Negri Sembilan state.

Dr. Mahathir said he was surprised by the extent of the opposition sweep in Kelantan, Mr. Razaleigh's home state, one of two now with opposition governments. The other is Sabah, the east Malaysian state, whose Christian-led Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) switched allegiance to Mr. Razaleigh just before the polls. The majority of the opposition seats were won by the PBS, which took 14 of the 20 seats in Sabah, the Parti Islam with six and the DAP with 16.

The general election saw for the first time a public airing of sensitive racial and religions issues carefully avoided since the 1969 polls which ended with ethnic Malay and Chinese clashes in which hundreds died. Rain slowed voting in some states, but no major incidents were reported Sunday except in the eastern town of Kuantan where two buses ferrying voters were stoned and their windscreens smashed.

Among early winners were Dr. Mahathir's deputy Ghafar Baba, re-elected to parliament from Malacca state, and Education Minister Anwar bin Ibrahim who won in Penang. Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar won in Selangor state while Trade and Industry Minister Rafidah Aziz won in Perak state.

The polls saw the election to parliament of Malaysia's first environmentalist, Harrison Ngau, who championed the cause of the Penans, a tribe in Sarawak Baram district battling encroaching loggers. Mr. Harrison defeated Luhat Wan, federal deputy works minister, to earn his seat. Another deputy minister to crash out was Kassim Ahmad who lost in Kelantan.

All leaders of non-Malay component parties in the National Front were re-elected.

Mr. Razaleigh's strategy of forcing straight fights in the majority of constituencies appeared to have benefitted his allies, the DAP and the fundamentalist Parti Islam, more than the former Trade Minister's Semangat '46. The Parti Islam won control of Kelantan state and boosted its representation in the federal parliament from one to six seats, while the DAP scored heavily in Penang and kept most of its seats in ethnic Chinese majority areas.

Mahathir Plans No Reshuffle

BK2210040090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0342 GMT 22 Oct 90

[By Peter Mackler]

[Excerpts] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 22 (AFP)—Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed basked Monday in his landslide win in Malaysia's general election and said he planned no major cabinet reshuffle after repulsing the stiffest challenge to his nine-year rule. Dr. Mahathir earned a third five-year term as his National Front capped the most intensely fought campaign in Malaysia's history by taking at least 127 of the 180 seats in parliament in voting over the weekend.

The opposition coalition led by former Trade Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah had 52 seats, failing in its drive to at least deprive the front of its traditional two-thirds majority, with one more seat still to be declared.

A jubilant Dr. Mahathir, hoisted in the air by supporters after his victory was confirmed early Monday, termed the result a vote of confidence in the multi-racial front that has dominated politics here since independence in 1957. "We promised value and performance and kept our promises," the 64-year-old physician-politician told a news conference after escaping from the elections with a loss of only half a dozen seats from his previous three-fourths majority. But he was not unscathed after a bitter campaign that brought race and religious issues to the fore in this Southeast Asian country of nearly 18 million people where majority Malays co-exist with Chinese, Indians and tribal groups. [passage omitted]

But Dr. Mahathir, who dropped three ministers from his ticket at the start of the campaign, said he saw no need for a complete overhaul of his government. "Most members of the cabinet have performed well," he told reporters. "We don't play musical chairs."

The election results were a crushing defeat for Mr. Razaleigh, an urbane Malay prince from Kelantan who cobbled together a tenuous nine-party alliance around his Semangat '46 group which split from Dr. Mahathir's United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) two years ago. [passage omitted]

Mr. Razaleigh, 53, who narrowly failed in a bid to oust Dr. Mahathir as UMNO chief in 1987, said he accepted his latest defeat as the will of Allah and took comfort from the fact he waged a cleaner campaign than the National Front. "We have restrained from exploiting religion to rouse communal emotions and from arousing the people's fear by threats of national disaster such as racial riots and economic strife," he said in a statement. [passage omitted]

Mahathir Interviewed 21 Oct

BK2110194990 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay 1835 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Interview with Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed by two unidentified correspondents in Kuala Lumpur on 21 October—recorded]

[Text] [First correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Mahathir] The fact that we won 91 seats means we have succeeded in forming a government. This matter has been settled. The current issue is to determine a majority.

[Second correspondent] Datuk, are you confident of getting a two-thirds majority under the current circumstances?

[Mahathir] Well, it is still possible because 124 seats have thus far been decided. This means that 56 more seats are yet to be decided.

[Second correspondent] Datuk, it seems that we have succeeded in forming several state governments. What is your comment?

[Mahathir] Indeed, we expected to form state governments. Despite losing several seats, we received a large majority in most states.

[Second correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Mahathir] Kelantan? The case of Kelantan was unexpected. Although we anticipated that we would lose there, we did not expect a severe loss. Even famous and popular personalities lost severely there. We observe that the impact of the UMNO [United Malays Nation Organization] breakaway faction [the Spirit of '46] is felt only in Kelantan. We can see now while the breakaway faction helps the PAS [Pan Malaysian Islamic Party] there, the PAS seems unable to help the Spirit of '46 win elections, especially in parliamentary constituencies in other states. We are aware that the APU [an alliance grouping the Spirit of '46 with the PAS and the Muslim Party] wants the PAS to form a state government in Kelantan and the Spirit of '46 to form a central government. However, the Spirit of '46's partners seem to have won more seats than the Spirit of '46 itself.

[Second correspondent] Datuk, turning to Penang, it seems the opposition's scenario has now changed since the fall of Dr. Lim Chong Eu [chief minister of the Penang State]. What is your comment?

[Mahathir] Well, we feel very sad because Padang Kota residents rejected a person who has successfully developed Penang for the Penang people. I feel very sad because a person of his age who has served for 20 years should have been given a place. However, this is the choice of the Penang people. We can say nothing about this.

[Second correspondent] Datuk, the question is now: Who will replace Dr. Lim Chong Eu as chief minister?

[Mahathir] We will consult the Gerakan [the Malaysian People's Movement to which Dr. Lim belongs] on this issue. We have not yet decided.

[Second correspondent] There was a gentleman's agreement [two preceding words in English] regarding this issue during the last general election. Is the gentleman's agreement still applicable in 1990?

[Mahathir] We are all gentlemen.

[Second correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Mahathir] We keep the agreement we have already made. Okay.

Islamic Party Official Comments

BK2210091290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0817 GMT 22 Oct 90

[By A. Letchumanan]

[Text] Kota Bahru, Malaysia, Oct 22 (AFP)—The fundamentalist Parti Islam (PAS) said Monday it was God's will that swept it to power in the northern Malaysian state of Kelantan, but it pledged to protect the rights of non-Moslems.

"There is no need for non-Moslems to fear us," Wan Abdul Rahim Wan Abdullah, the party's director of operations in Kelantan, said after the elections that ended 12 years of rule here by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad's National Front. "Non-Moslems are free to practice their religion, culture and traditions and become involved in any economic dealings."

He said that Parti Islam's administration of Kelantan from 1959 to 1978 showed it was capable of respecting sensitivities in multiracial Malaysia and added that the party's current leaders were moderates.

The party joined with three other groups in a coalition to sweep all 39 seats in the State Assembly and 13 in the federal parliament, spoiling an otherwise massive win for the National Front countrywide. An election commission official said it was the first time in Malaysia's 33-year history that the opposition had shut out the ruling coalition.

Ironically, the opposition alliance was organised by former Trade Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, a one-time National Front stalwart who engineered the ouster of the Parti Islam from Kelantan 12 years ago. "The win is a big embarrassment for Dr. Mahathir," said Rozali Isohak, Kelantan director of operations for Mr. Razaleigh's Semangat '46 Party. "We did not expect to sweep all the seats."

But the Parti Islam came out with the biggest gains, boosting its seats in the State Assembly from the 10 won in the 1986 election to 24. Its federal parliamentary delegation from Kelantan went from one to six.

Officials said the four parties in the coalition, which includes two smaller and more moderate Moslem groups, had agreed that the chief minister would come from the Parti Islam and his deputy from Semangat. "I don't think we will have any problem forming the government," Mr. Rozali said, adding that the coalition parties had a "perfect relationship" and would meet soon to iron out details.

He said the state government would be careful not to antagonise Kuala Lumpur. "We have our own functions and where there are times we have to work with the federal (government) we will work with them."

Mr. Abdul Rahim said that the state's Parti Islam members, numbering about 250,000, had been asked to fast for a day as thanksgiving for the election triumph. "It is the will of God for PAS to win. The fast is gratitude to God for the victory," he said.

Lower House Results Listed

BK2210054190 Hong Kong AFP in English 0519 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 22 (AFP)—Final state of the parties in the Dewan Rakyat, the lower house of parliament, after the Malaysian general elections (representation in previous parliament in brackets):

National Front

United Malays National Organisation (UMNO): 72 (73)
Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA): 17 (17)
Gerakan: 5 (5)
Malaysian Indian Congress (MIC): 6 (5)
United Sabah National Organisation (USNO): 6 (5)
Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak (PBDS): 4 (4)
Parti Pesaka Bumiputra Bersatu (PBB): 9 (7)
Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP): 5 (4)
Sarawak National Party (SNAP): 3 (4)
Total: 127 (133)

Opposition

Democratic Action Party (DAP): 20 (24)
Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS): 14 (9)
Semangat '46: 8 (12)
Parti Islam (PAS): 7 (1)
Independents: 4 (4)
Permas: 0 (1)
Total: 53 (42)

Note: Totals for previous parliament indicate state of parties before the defection of Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) from the National Front to the opposition.

The previous parliament included two nonaligned legislators among the 177 members. The current parliament was expanded to 180 members.

Results of Candidates Listed

BK2110132490

[Editorial Report] Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay at 1255 GMT on 21 October announces the results of the 20 and 21 October parliamentary and state elections as follows:

Name of Candidate	Party	Constituency
1. Tun Mustapha	National Front	Limbawang
2. Robert Lau	National Front	Sibu
3. Johar Mahiruddin	National Front	Kinabatangan
4. Monggoh Orow	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Tuaran
5. Wan Junaidi	National Front	Batang Lupar
6. Thomas Salang	National Front	Julau
7. Taimin Lumaing	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Pensiangan
8. Leo Moggie	National Front	Kanowit
9. Datu Amirkahar	National Front	Marudu
10. Joseph Mauh	Independent	Selangau
11. Sakaran Dandai	National Front	Semporna
12. Law Hieng Ding	National Front	Sarikei
13. Radin Malleh	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Padas
14. Lai Lun Tzee	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Sandaka
15. George Sangkin	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Bandau
16. Paul Maidom Panai	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Kota Belud
17. Othman Minudin	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Kota Kinabalu
18. Bernard Dompok	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Penampang
19. Yong Chiew Lip	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Gaya
20. Billy Abit Joo	Independent	Hulu Rejang
21. Harrison Laing	Independent	Baram
22. Leo Michael Toyad	National Front	Mukah
23. Sulaiman Daud	National Front	Petra Jaya
24. Rohani Karim	National Front	Santubong
25. Osu Sukam	National Front	Papar
26. Datuk Taib Mahmud	National Front	Samarahan
27. Richard Riot	Independent	Serian
28. Douglas Embas	National Front	Betong
29. Joseph Wun	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Tanjong Aru
30. Yee Lung Fook	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Tawau
31. Abu Abar Mustapha	National Front	Kuala Rajang
32. Nurnikmam	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Kimanis
33. Michael Lisa Kaya	National Front	Bukit Mas
34. James Jimbun	National Front	Kapit
35. Abdol Mulok	National Front	Labuan
36. Yong Khoon Seng	National Front	Padawan

Name of Candidate	Party	Constituency: (Continued)
37. Sim Kwang Yang	Democratic Action Party	Bandar Kuching
38. Wahab Suhaili	National Front	Batang Sadong
39. Daniel Tajem	National Front	Sri Aman
40. Michael Asang	Parti Bersatu Sabah	Jambongan
41. Peter Tinggom	National Front	Saratok
42. Kerk Kim Hock	Democratic Action Party	Pasir Pinji
43. Patau Rubis	National Front	Mas Gading
44. Wee Choo Keong	Democratic Action Party	Bukit Bintang
45. Railey Jeffrey	National Front	Silam
46. Liew Ah Kim	Democratic Action Party	Seputeh
47. Peter Chin	National Front	Miri
48. Lau Dak Khee	Democratic Action Party	Ipoh
49. James Wong	National Front	Bintulu
50. Kumaran	National Front	Tapah
51. Fauzi Abdul Rahman	National Front	Kuantan
52. Wong Sing Nang	Democratic Action Party	Lanang
53. Napsiah Omar	National Front	Kuala Pilah
54. Foo Piew Kok	Democratic Action Party	Batu Gajah
55. Nawawi Mat Awin	National Front	Tambun
56. Tan Kok Wai	Democratic Action Party	Sungai Besi
57. Lim Guan Eng	Democratic Action Party	Kota Melaka
58. Ibrahim Jendol	National Front	Alor Gajah
59. Megat Junid Ayob	National Front	Pasir Salak
60. Ting Chew Peh	National Front	Gopeng
61. Fong Chan Onn	National Front	Melaka Selandar
62. Mohamed Abdullah	National Front	Maran
63. S.S. Subramaniam	National Front	Segamat
64. Abdul Ghafar Baba	National Front	Jasin
65. Najib Tun Razak	National Front	Pekan
66. Suleiman Mohamed	National Front	Titiwangsa
67. Tajol Rosli	National Front	Gerik
68. Lim Ah Lek	National Front	Bentong
69. Syed Hamid Jaafar	National Front	Kota Tinggi
70. Yusof Noor	National Front	Besut
71. Abdul Kadir Fadzir	National Front	Kulim
72. Daud Haji Taha	National Front	Batu Pahat
73. Siti Zaharah	National Front	Mentakab
74. Dominic Puthocheary	National Front	Nibong Tebal
75. Lim Kit Siang	Democratic Action Party	Tanjung
76. A. Rahman Suleiman	National Front	Parit Buntar
77. Mohamed Shariff	National Front	Tasek Gelugor
78. Ong Tee Keat	National Front	Ampang Jaya
79. Mohamed Zain	National Front	Tasek Chenderoh
80. Mahbud Hashim	National Front	Sabak Berenam
81. Haji Ibrahim Mahmood	PAS	Kuala Kerai
82. Wan Hanafiah	National Front	Kota Setar
83. Badawi	National Front	Kepala Batas
84. Mohamed Sharif	National Front	Sepang
85. Tamrin Abdul Ghafar	National Front	Batu Berendam
86. Kong Chao Oh	National Front	Keluang
87. Chan Kong Choi	National Front	Lipis
88. Jamaluddin	National Front	Rompin
89. Ling Chooi Sieng	National Front	Lumut
90. Peter Paul Dasan	Democratic Action Party	Bayan Baru
91. Bunyamin Yaakob	PAS	Bachok
92. Shahidan Kasim	National Front	Arau
93. Datuk Ajib Ahmad	National Front	Mersing
94. Samy Vellu	National Front	Sungai Siput
95. Mahathir Mohamed	National Front	Kubang Pasu

Leo Moggie and Sulaiman Daud are minister of works and minister in the Prime Minister's Department, respectively, in the current federal government.

Sim Kwang Yang of the Democratic Action Party defeated Stephen Yong, currently minister of science, technology, and environment, in the Bandar Kuching Constituency

Mahathir Warns 'No Place' for Racial Extremists

BK2010084390 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed says the Barisan Nasional [BN] has no place for racial extremist groups that can jeopardize the cooperation among the races in Malaysia. The prime minister said Malaysia needs moderation and compromise to ensure that the government of the country is carried in a manner that is fair to all the races.

Addressing about 3,000 people near Alor Setar, Kedah, last night he said extremism and giving priority to the wishes of only race were not in line with the spirit of cooperation. He said, however, compromise does not mean selling out the dignity of the race and religion just to get votes.

Observers Find Awareness in 'Healthy State'

BK2110052090 Bangkok THE NATION in English 21 Oct 90 A1

[By Kunlachada Chaiphiphat]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur—After spending 10 days interviewing people from all walks of life, the Commonwealth observer team for the general election found political awareness in Malaysia in a "healthy" state, its team leader Dudley Thompson said yesterday. But Thompson said the country could be a showcase of democracy for other countries if the individual was given full rights to vote as far as the election law was concerned. He did not elaborate.

Thompson, a former Jamaican foreign minister, said so far the team had a satisfactory record of complaints about the elections in terms of facts and figures but declined to reveal to newsmen what they actually were, saying it was supposed to be confidential.

Peninsular Malaysians are going to the polls today, however in Sabah and Sarawak, people began to cast their votes yesterday.

The Commonwealth observer team has found it difficult to reveal the nature of complaints received so far, for fear that the polls might be influenced. "All I can say is that we found there was a healthy awareness of politics here," said Thompson.

The team leader added they would meet the Electoral Commission today to verify the truth of the allegations. "We expect them to give an explanation or specifically deny any of the allegations," he said.

He said the team yesterday had meetings with representatives from non-government organizations (NGO) and politicians from both the ruling National Front coalition parties and the opposition. The NGOs are Election Watch, Media Watch and Suara, a human rights group. Those from the political parties included the pro-Chinese rights Democratic Action Party (DAP)'s candidate Dr Kua Kia Soong and a candidate from the Malaysia Indian Congress (MIC), a component party of the National Front.

He stressed that permission for the team was not denied when it wanted to meet certain people. He said his team would also travel around the city of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor state to visit polling stations today. The groups which split from the main team to observe the pre-election situation in rural areas would begin returning to Kuala Lumpur after the election.

The team is supposed to submit the findings to the Commonwealth Secretariat by October 22 to be forewarded to the Malaysian Government.

The 12-member main team and a five-member support team split into five groups of two members each. The groups were assigned to Penang to observe the campaigns in the northern region, to Kuala Lumpur in the central region, to Kota Baru for the east coast, to Johore Baru for the southern region, Kota Kinabalu for Sabah and Kuching for Sarawak. The support team has been here since October 10 and the official team from London joined them on October 15.

"We will not be steered by anyone and we can go where we want," Patsy Robertson, the team's spokeswoman said. "The officials only gave logistics support including transportation which was necessary for the teams to reach remote areas and kept rather quiet to avoid swaying our views," she added.

The group's function is to evaluate the freeness and fairness of the election but not to investigate or make comments on the cases. "Our judgement will be an independent one," Thompson said on his arrival here on Monday.

Meanwhile, Election Watch in a statement here yesterday said the group had discussed with the Commonwealth observer team issues like election fraud, campaign practices, the role of the mass media, the role of the Election Commission, and the observer team report to be prepared. Election Watch said it was particularly concerned about a number of cases of voters with different names bearing the same identity card numbers in a constituency in Perak State.

Cambodia

Phnom Penh Criticizes U.S. Pressure on Dancers

BK2010075090 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Station commentary: "A Strange Working Procedure"]

[Text] According to Voice of America radio, the Department of State and the Immigration Service of the United States recently interviewed members of the State of Cambodia's traditional dance delegation before these dancers were due to return home. Although these interviews did not produce any significant positive results, this act is a strange and unprecedented working procedure. This is moral pressure on these dancers to provide an opportunity for some people for political exploitation aimed at tarnishing the State of Cambodia's prestige.

The Cambodian people would like to reiterate once more that these dancers, like other Cambodian people, are free to decide where they want to live without foreign pressure. The strangest thing is that these dancers are not refugees but delegates taking part in a festival in California at the invitation of the University of California's administration.

Why did the U.S. Department of State and the Immigration Service conduct interviews on whether the dancers want to return or not? This act is not appropriate to the principle of respect for human rights. What the U.S. Department of State and Immigration Service should do is thoroughly investigate the dance troupe's members who have been coaxed and cheated by some bad people and intimidated into defecting and staying in the United States.

According to (John McKennon), director of the U.S.-Indochina [words indistinct], which is the organization most instrumental in bringing this dance troupe to perform in the United States, a number of U.S. citizens of Cambodian origin cooperated with an active network and used its members to threaten, coax, pressure, and carry out propaganda among the dance troupe and the media. (Ellini Mentor), a major producer of the festival to show Cambodian traditional dance in the United States, says she saw all kinds of concerted efforts to force the dancers to defect. She further says a Cambodian man attempted to abduct Yim Tevi, the lead dancer of the Cambodian traditional dance troupe. This is why when questioned by officials of the U.S. Department of State and Immigration Department, Yim Tevi was answered for by a lawyer who told the United States she does not want to return home.

Have the U.S. Department of State and Immigration Department investigated this? If the United States is really kind and wants Cambodian people to live in the States, why does the U.S. Department of State and the Immigration Department not interview over 300,000 Cambodian refugees who are under oppression and who are prisoners of the Samdech Sihanouk, Son Sann, and Pol Pot groups in camps along the Cambodian-Thai border? Over the past more than 11 years, the U.S. Department of State and Immigration Department have been indifferent to the cries of these Cambodian refugees who want to request the right to live in third countries. The United States has instead let these Cambodian refugees fall into the grip of a number of bad people, particularly the Pol Pot clique, who have used refugees to draw aid to feed their troops and wage a bloodletting war to oppose the Cambodian people's rebirth.

Another strange thing is that while the United States has ignored a number of countries which have forced Vietnamese refugees to return home, the U.S. Department of State and Immigration Department have instead interviewed and facilitated Cambodian dancers, who are not refugees, to enable them to live in the United States. We would like to ask these two departments: If a country forced a similar U.S. delegation on a mission abroad, how angry would the U.S. Government and people be? Lately, although there are no diplomatic relations yet, the State of Cambodia has facilitated and created conditions for art troupes from the Kingdom of Thailand and France to perform in the State of Cambodia, even at the Angkor Wat Temple. For this reason, we think the regrettable act of the U.S. Department of State and the Immigration Service is provocative and affects the friendship between the Cambodian and American people. This is simply to serve the political exploitation of the other Cambodian side. We hope this kind of action will not be repeated.

Dancers Speak on Treatment

BK2110091090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Oct 90 p 4

[Text] Several members of a Cambodian dance troupe thwarted seduction attempts during a recent tour of the United States while others succumbed to offers of an easy life in America, dancers said here [place not given] yesterday. The dancers said they were hounded coast to coast by Cambodian-Americans whom they suspected were supporters of guerrilla factions fighting their pro-Vietnamese government.

Several members of the classical dance troupe—men and women—said they were approached between performances with confessions of love at first sight as well as occasional death threats.

Said one dancer who decided to return: "A (Cambodian) woman came to make love to me, but I was sure she had some dirty tricks prepared, and she would make me serve her faction." "I am married and a father. She was married and a mother, too," 42-year-old Penn Chamroeun told reporters. "Seeing that she could not persuade me, she told me the truth—that they had planned for months to make us defect when we came to America," he added.

Penn Chamroeun and several of his colleagues said they were not sure which guerrilla faction—the Marxist Khmer Rouge or the two non-communist groups led Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former prime minister Son Sann—were behind the overtures.

Four dancers decided to stay behind during a stop in St Paul, Minnesota, said the classical dance troupe's director Proeung Chhieng. "People had offered them housing, social security numbers of dead people and promises of a future free from worry," Toni Shapiro, an American tour consultant, quoted the four dancers as saying.

It was not clear if they would seek political asylum or would try to join the anti-government factions, or even if they were eligible as members of a government troupe to apply for asylum, said John McAuliff, head of a Philadelphia-based group sponsoring the tour.

A fifth dancer, the troupe's star Yim Tevi, decided to remain behind in the United States in hopes of furthering her studies but made it clear that she would not attempt to defect, said Neavi Pal, the tour manager. Miss Yim Tevi narrowly escaped a kidnapping attempt by a Cambodian man in front of a New York hotel near the end of the month-long tour, added Cambodian-American Neavi Pal.

"If it weren't so vicious it would have been comical," said Eileen Blumenthal, a Rutgers University professor traveling with the troupe. "I'm afraid it's created a whole new wave of distrust," said McAuliff, who is head of the U.S. Indochina Reconciliation Project.

The dancers had to endure hours of cross-examination by U.S. officials who wanted to find out if they were returning to Phnom Penh against their will.

Phnom Penh Radio Denounces Polpotist 'Crimes'

BK2010143890 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 20 Oct 90

["Report on Crimes Committed by the Genocidal Pol Pot Gang"]

[Text] At present, although UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and the five major countries, the permanent members of the UN Security Council, have called on the Cambodian parties to exercise maximum self-restraint and return to the negotiating table to settle the Cambodian problem, the Pol Pot genocidal gang remains stubborn and continues to find methods to carry out its rusty tactics. Moreover, the gang's ringleaders, who have pretended to accept the framework document of the five major countries and support the resolution adopted by the 45th UN General Assembly, have continued activating and expanding the civil war in Cambodia. Their main objective is to plunder and slaughter the people and rape women living in remote areas or traveling along routes stretching through jungles.

In fact, on 14 October, a group of Polpotists ambushed a bus transporting people in an area 12 km north of (?Tani) on national Route 4, killing a civilian and wounding two others. On 17 October, a group of Polpotists attacked a train convoy with land mines and shotguns in an area 15 km east of Prey Nop District in Kompong Som city, derailing the train and causing the death of 50 people.

This is the cruel and barbarous nature of the gang stained with the people's blood, which has attempted to resolve the Cambodian problem via military means to return to butchering the Cambodian people for the second time. This is also clear evidence that the traitorous Pol Pot gang has no goodwill to settle the Cambodian problem in the least.

The Cambodian people throughout the country vehemently denounce the criminal Pot Pot gang and are prepared to make all kinds of sacrifices to block its return at all costs. Along with this, our people wish to protest and call on the United Nations, the Big Five, as well as the peace- and justice-loving countries to take strict preventive measures against the genocidal regime. The Cambodian people only want peace without the genocidal Pol Pot gang.

AFP: Khmer Rouge Kill 50 in Train Attack

BK2010111890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1101 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, Oct 20 (AFP)—Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked a passenger train in Kampot Province in southern Cambodia, killing about 50 people, Cambodian and Western sources said here Saturday.

The attack Wednesday on the train travelling between the port of Kompong Som and the capital left about 50 dead and an additional 20 people injured, the sources said. They said at least one of the train cars was derailed by mines before the attack. Official confirmation of the report was unavailable Saturday.

It was the third such Khmer Rouge attack on the strategic line, which is essential for Phnom Penh's foreign trade, much of which is shipped through Kompong Som. The attack followed increased Khmer Rouge activity in the Kampot region in recent days after relative calm in the past few weeks.

Hospital sources said Friday that major fighting took place recently in the province between government troops and Khmer Rouge guerrillas.

The Khmer Rouge is the military backbone of the Cambodian resistance which is fighting to topple the Vietnam-installed government in Phnom Penh.

SPK on Border Area Activity 2d Week of Oct

BK2010100690 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0420 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 20—According to military sources, in the second week of October, the government forces at border areas in the northwestern provinces of Battambang, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, put out of action 113 enemy troops including 44 killed, 44 forced to surrender, and 25 others captured.

They also seized 13 assorted guns and a quantity of other war means.

Flights Planned With Bangkok, Brussels, Paris

BK2210134090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1313 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, Oct 22 (AFP)—Bangkok Airways will open a direct air-link between Bangkok and Phnom Penh this week, a company spokesman said Monday. The privately owned company will operate flights twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays, using a Dash 8 aircraft with a capacity of 36 passengers.

Bangkok Airways has made several trial flights on the route over the past few months and has now decided to open it as a commercial service to compete with European airlines, industry experts said.

A Belgian charter company, Air Belgium, will begin bi-monthly flights Thursday between Brussels and Phnom Penh using a Boeing 757, the firm Air Kampuchea said. And French charter firm Air Liberte, a subsidiary of the national flag carrier Air France, will begin weekly flights from Paris to Phnom Penh on October 30 using an Airbus 300/600R.

Until now, only the Soviet Union, Laos and Vietnam have had air links with Cambodia. Western countries do not recognise the pro-Vietnam government here. However, France has already begun restoring its former ties with Cambodia as highlighted by the visit here at the end of September by the French secretary of state for foreign affairs, Thierry de Beauce.

Hor Namhong Thanks Cuba's Malmierca for Message

BK2110143390 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Comarde Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, recently sent a message of thanks to his Cuban counterpart Comrade Isidoro Malmierca. The message reads: I would like to sincerely thank you for your warmest greetings on my appointment as foreign minister of the State of Cambodia. I am confident the relations between our two countries and ministries as well as our personal relations will continue to develop and strengthen. In the future as at present, we will always have the confidence in Cuba's solidarity and support to our just cause.

Khieu Samphan's Letter to UN Secretary General

BK2210024190 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 21 Oct 90

["Full text" of letter from His Excellency Khieu Samphan to His Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary general of the United Nations, "informing him of the Vietnamese-Phnom Penh activities in escalating the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia and destroying the framework document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, UNSC, the Jakarta joint communique, and the UNSC Resolution 668/1990"; dated 16 October]

[Text] Your Excellency:

In my capacity as the head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea, I would like once again to express deepest thanks to you for your continued efforts to seek ways to end the war in Cambodia.

I am very glad the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted, on 15 October 1990, a resolution on the Cambodian problem. This resolution constitutes another important step taken by the international community to reinforce the framework document of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council [UNSC] as the unique and basic document for settling the conflict in Cambodia. I would also like to emphasize that my party of Democratic Kampuchea and the two other parties of the Cambodian national resistance forces unswervingly continue to support the framework document of the five UNSC permanent members, the Jakarta joint communique dated 10 September 1990, and the UNSC Resolution 668/1990.

More than ever before, we must strive to seek ways to speed up the elaboration of the five UNSC permanent members' framework document to turn it into an all-around political agreement through the process of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

In this respect, I totally agree with you that the most urgent work is the establishment of the Supreme National Council [SNC]. When the SNC is fully established, the search for peace will certainly proceed quickly in line with the aspirations of the Cambodian people and the entire international community. By then, the United Nations can fully play its role in Cambodia in carrying out the peace process in line with the framework document of the five UNSC permanent members.

I would like also to draw your attention to the following situations:

1. On the Cambodian battlefield:

Vietnam has continued sending fresh troops to Cambodia. Between September and October, Vietnam sent 8,000 fresh troops to Cambodia. The majority of these were sent to the Battambang battlefield. The Heng Samrin party has intensified activities to forcibly recruit the people to serve its army. The Vietnamese and Heng Samrin troops have been making all-out efforts to launch an offensive to seize the liberated zone from the national resistance forces.

2. On the diplomatic field:

Vietnam and Hun Sen have made efforts to destroy the five UNSC documents by seeking every means to gradually alter these documents. Their current efforts are to prevent Samdech Norodom Sihanouk from becoming the SNC chairman.

In such a situation, I would like to call on your excellency, jointly with the world community, to use your influence to force Vietnam and Hun Sen:

1) To accept Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as the SNC chairman as defined in the five UNSC permanent members' document, Jakarta joint communique, and UNSC Resolution 668/1990; and

2) To respect and implement these three documents.

Only by so doing can the United Nations play its role as defined in the five UNSC permanent members' framework document.

The party of Democratic Kampuchea and two other parties in the Cambodian national resistance forces will continue to cooperate fully with your excellency in fulfilling your authority assigned by the UNSC now and in the future.

Please, Your Excellency, accept my highest regards.

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea

Vietnamese Pacts Considered 'Null and Void'

BK2010022990 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Statement of the Foreign Ministry of the National Government of Cambodia; dated 19 October—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. The National Government of Cambodia would like to solemnly recall it has successively indicated to national and international opinion, that agreements or treaties signed with Vietnam's puppet administration—which is propped up in Phnom Penh by the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors—are considered null and void and worthless to the Cambodian nation and people.

2. The basic document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], the 10 September 1990 Jakarta joint statement, and the UNSC's resolution 668/90 clearly state that once a full Supreme National Council [SNC] is set up—that is, once the SNC has Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman—this SNC will become the legitimate body and the sole power representing Cambodia's independence, sovereignty, and national unity during the transitional period. In this sense, starting from the time the SNC is fully set up, it is the entire SNC that will represent Cambodia's independence, sovereignty, and national unity, and not any one Cambodian party alone.

Therefore, during the transitional period—that is, from the time when the full SNC is set up with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman, to the formation of a new Cambodian national government, resulting from proper elections under UN supervision—only agreements signed with the SNC with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman are valid.

[Dated] 19 October 1990

KPNLF Hails UN, Asks SRV To Stop Drafts

BK2010130090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 1100 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] The Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF], welcoming the United Nations' call on the four Cambodian parties to put their past differences aside by taking into consideration the people's interest, has appealed to Vietnam and the Hun Sen group to stop immediately their forcible drafts. The front has also criticized the latter for raising conditions on the election of the chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] hampering the peace process.

In a recent press communique, the KPNLF states the front wishes to welcome the appeal launched by UN Secretary General His Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar and UN General Assembly President His Ecxcellency Guido de Marco to the four Cambodian parties to consider the Cambodian people's basic interest as the most important one and to put aside their past bitter differences.

In the communique, the KPNLF also warmly welcomes the resolution adopted by the 45th UN General Assembly. The front has the confidence in the resolution, the framework document for a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian problem hammered out by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, and the Jakarta agreement on accepting the framework and setting up the SNC. The UN Security Council's Resolution 668/1990 endorsing the framework document and the establishment of the SNC and urging the SNC members to elect a chairman of the council as well as the appeals made by the key leaders of the world body have cleared the way and created an atmosphere for an early peace in Cambodia. However, peace depends on the implementation of the agreements and the appeals to all the parties concerned.

The KPNLF communique points out that the KPNLF accepts to abide by all the agreements and appeals. However, the front wishes to note with regret that the Phnom Penh regime has not agreed to adhere to the agreements and appeals but has instead raised conditions on the election of the SNC chairman. This has caused the deadlock of the current peace process and the continued fighting in Cambodia.

The KPNLF also notes it is Vietnam, backer [of the Phnom Penh regime], who has created the obstacle, because Vietnam needs to split and weaken the Cambodians to achieve its ultimate goal of turning Cambodia into its colony. The KPNLF appeals to Vietnam and the pro-Vietnamese group in Phnom Penh to substantiate their demand for the voluntary self-restraint in the use of force by deeds but not by words. Moreover, the KPNLF also calls on Vietnam and the Heng Samrin group to stop the forcible draft and insifying fighting immediately.

Lately, His Excellency Son Sann, president of the KPNLF and member of the SNC, appealed to His Excellency Perez de Cuellar and the foreign ministers of the countries, which are the permanent members of the UN Security Council, to use their authority and influence to put the strongest pressure on the Vietnamese leadership and the group propped up by the Vietnamese in Phnom Penh to force them to accept the agreements and appeals. His Excellency Son Sann also called for the continued imposition of economic sanctions against Vietnam and Phnom Penh until the Cambodian problem is settled. In addition, His Excellency Son Sann, in a recent interview with VOA, appealed to the Hun Sen group not to listen to the Vietnamese too much, because Vietam's desire for Hun Sen to be vice chairman [of the SNC] is only aimed at showing the world that the Phnom Penh regime has a legal government.

SRV Position in Oddar Meanchey 'Liberated'

BK2210022090 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] From 16 October to the morning of 19 October, our national resistance forces attacked a position of the Vietnamese-puppet Ngor-7 Regiment at Kouk Mon on Oddar Meanchey battlefield. This regiment belongs to the Vietnamese-puppet 286th Division. After fighting for more than three days, we smashed and liberated this Ngor-7 Regiment's position at Kouk Mon. Our national resistance forces basically destroyed the Vietnamese-puppet forces, both manpower and materiel, and seized a large quantity of war materiel.

This assault on the Ngor-7 Regiment of the Vietnamese enemies and their puppets proceeded with military and political attacks simultaneously and with cooperation of patriotic Cambodian soldiers and militiamen who have joined hands with the national resistance forces in the fight against the Vietnamese enemies and their puppets. The Ngor-7 Regiment position at Kouk Mon is the largest military position of the Vietnamese-puppet 286th Division in Oddar Meanchey Province. The enemies have had many tanks, artillery pieces, and war materiel in this position. In addition to this regiment position, they have other small positions and another large position at Samraong.

Our Cambodian national resistance forces have been continuing the offensive to sweep up these small positions and cut off the Samraong position.

VODK Says 40,000 SRV Soldiers 'Infiltrated'

BK2010085090 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Unattributed commentary: "The Vietnamese Aggressors and the Phnom Penh Puppets Are Hiding Tens of Thousands of Vietnamese Aggressor Forces Specializing in Sabotage, Subversion, and Psychological Warfare in Cambodia"]

[Text] Reports from all zones under temporary control of the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh puppets, Vietnam's lackeys, clearly show that, along with destroying the peace plan of the United Nations, the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh puppets, Vietnam's lackeys, have also infiltrated into Cambodia 40,000 Vietnamese soldiers, ranging in ranks from sublieutenant and lieutenant to captain. These hidden elements of the Hanoi Vietnamese are fluent in speaking the Khmer language and experts in carrying out subversive and sabotage activities and psychological warfare. This is another method the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh puppets, Vietnam's lackeys, are implementing to continue occupying Cambodia in accordance with Vietnam's Indochinese federation strategy. The Cambodian people have seen through the perfidious maneuver of the Vietnamese aggressors and the Phnom Penh puppets, Vietnam's lackeys. The Cambodian people have cooperated in dismantling and smashing these hidden forces of the Vietnamese aggressors based on the spirit of great national solidarity and have set up village national councils with successive results.

The Cambodian people pledge to implement well the great national unity policy with more efficiency to smash the hidden forces of the Vietnamese aggressors until they are all eliminated from our Cambodian territory.

Indonesia

Ruling Party Looking for 'Suitable' Candidate

BK2010071590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0636 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 20 (AFP)—Indonesia's ruling Golkar Party is searching for a suitable candidate for the presidential elections due in 1993, party chairman Wahono has said. "Golkar is currently still looking around," the leading KOMPAS daily cited Mr. Wahono as having said Friday in a discussion with local journalists on the issue of the party's candidate for the next presidential elections.

President Suharto's fifth consecutive five-year term is due to end in 1993. The 68-year-old president indicated in a biography published last year that his 1988 re-election would be his last, sparking intense speculation about who might replace him and how they could be chosen.

Mr. Wahono, who spoke on the eve of Golkar's 26th anniversary, said the party was so far not grooming any particular party cadre for the presidential candidacy because many things could happen between now and 1993. He pointed out, however, that the Constitution states that the president and vice president hold office for five years and can be re-elected.

Under current laws, the president is appointed by the country's highest legislative body, the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR), during its single sitting every five years, one year after general elections for the House of Representatives (DPR). The MPR is due to convene in 1993.

The DPR's 400 MPs and 100 members of the Armed Forces appointed by the president, join 500 senior officials and leading figures also appointed by Mr. Suharto to form the MPR.

KOMPAS also cited Mr. Wahono as saying that Golkar would not pledge endorsement for a particular presidential candidate as it has done in the past. Statements endorsing Mr. Suharto's rule for another five years came from many socio-political and professional organizations, including Golkar, in the run up to the last presidential election in 1988.

Commenting on growing calls for a limit to the number of times a president could be re-elected, Mr. Wahono said that it was yet too early to talk about it and preferred to leave the matter to the next MPR General Assembly in 1993.

Professors at the prestigious Gajah Mada State University in the central Java town of Yogyakarta were the latest to join a growing chorus demanding a limit on presidential re-election. They called early this month for a maximum of two consecutive five-year terms for a president, saying the essence of democracy was "to hold regular and orderly leadership changes."

Suharto Says Differences Should Not Harm Unity

BK2110082090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0335 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 21 (AFP)—Differences of opinion are an important element of democracy, Indonesian President Suharto said here while warning that they should not endanger the unity of the nation. "We can have differences of opinion. But we should not let differences of opinion turn into a seed which will disunite us," Mr. Suharto said at a celebration of the 26th anniversary of the ruling Golkar Party late Saturday.

The president said that differences of opinion should be turned into a force to strengthen national unity and called on Indonesians to make sure that political openness did not result in divisions within the nation. "Difference of opinion is an important element of democracy, but a difference of opinion just for the sake of differing in opinion can ruin democracy," Mr. Suharto said.

Calls for more political openness have been growing since early last year when Mr. Suharto, 68, hinted in a new biography that he might stand down in 1993 when his fifth five-year term ends, sparking intense speculation about the succession and the country's political future.

Jakarta Issues 'Strong Warning' on Article

BK1910155990 Hong Kong AFP in English 1425 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 19 (AFP)—Indonesian authorities Friday issued a strong warning to a weekly tabloid for including Moslem prophet Muhammad in a readers' poll on popular figures. Director General for the Development of Press and Graphics Subrata said in a press release that an article published by the MONITOR WEEKLY on Monday "could give rise to wrong interpretations and could hurt feelings, especially those of Moslems."

The article contained the result of a readers' poll which ranked the prophet 11th in popularity, below other public figures. The poll covered a list of readers' 50 most popular figures.

The Information Ministry statement said the article could lead to tension among the faithful, and that the media should heed the strong warning "so as to prevent the government from taking an action which we all would not like to see."

A third strong warning usually means that future offenses would result in the closing down of the publication. The last news publication to lose its publishing license was the daily PRIORITAS in 1987.

French Rejection of Asylum Demand 'Welcomed'

BK2010005090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1828 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Jakarta, Oct 19 (AFP)—The Indonesian Government Friday welcomed the decision by the French Embassy in Port Moresby to reject an asylum demand from 20 Indonesians from Irian Jaya. "The Indonesian Government appreciates the attitude of the French Embassy in Port Moresby which has rejected the asylum demand by the said 20 people, because they are clearly not political refugees," the Indonesian Foreign Ministry said here in a statement.

The group of 20 Irianese absconded from the East Awin refugee camp near Vanimo on the Papua New Guinea side of the border and walked into the French Embassy in Port Moresby on Monday. The embassy rejected their asylum bid.

They were part of an estimated 8,000 Irianese who have crossed to Papua New Guinea to escape clashes between Indonesian troops and members of the Free Papua Movement in Irian Jaya. The Free Papua Movement has been fighting for an independent state since the former Dutch colony of West Guinea was incorporated into Indonesia in 1963.

Nelson Mandela Arrives in Jakarta 19 Oct

BK1910133190 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Excerpts] President and Mrs. Suharto will host a state banquet in honor of Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress [ANC] at the State Palace, Jakarta, tonight. The Black South African leader arrived at Halim Perdanakusuma Airport in Jakarta this afternoon from New Delhi after spending several days in India. [passage omitted] The South African guest is scheduled to leave Indonesia next Monday for Australia.

Suharto Presents Award

BK2010013990 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] President Suharto awarded the Republic of Indonesia Star to Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress [ANC] at the State Palace tonight. The award was presented to him for the consistency he has shown in his fight against apartheid in South Africa. The ceremony was conducted minutes after a state banquet was hosted by President Suharto and Mrs. Suharto in Mandela's honor. Present at the ceremony were Vice President Sudharmono, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, and Minister/State Secretary Murdiono.

Pledges 25 Million Rand

MB2010134090 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] President Suharto of Indonesia has promised the ANC [African National Congress] about 25 million rands for the struggle against ending apartheid in South Africa [sentence as heard].

Mr. Suharto announced this after a meeting with the deputy president of the ANC, Mr. Nelson Mandela, who is on a four-day visit to Indonesia. The Indonesian Government undertook to provide South Africa with technical assistance once apartheid no longer existed.

Mr. Suharto presented Mr. Mandela with a medal for his contribution to the struggle against apartheid.

Mandela Speaks on NP Membership

MB2210060890 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Mr. Mandela has welcomed the decision by the National Party [NP] to open its membership to all. Speaking in Jarkarta during his four-day visit to Indonesia, he said however, that black leaders would be committing suicide if they joined the National Party, as the party had resisted racial integration for too long.

During his visit to Indonesia, Mr. Mandela received a donation of 26 million rands from President Suharto for the African National Congress.

Having visited India, he continues his far east tour with visits to Australia and Japan.

Laos

Former Government Officials Reportedly Arrested

BK2210083690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0812 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Bangkok, Oct 22 (AFP)—Laos's communist authorities have arrested former government officials who had called for the establishement of multi-party democracy, knowledgeable sources said Monday. About half a dozen people, including two former vice ministers, were arrested on October 8, the sources from here and the Laotian capital of Vientiane said.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said among those arrested were Thongsouk Saisangkhi, a former vice minister of science and Latsami Khamphoui, a former vice minister of agriculture. Another arrested official was an unidentified director in the Justice Ministry, the sources said.

The ruling Communist Party seized power in Laos in December 1975, turning the poor, landlocked country with a population of less than 4 million into a close Vietnam ally.

Similar pro-democracy movements in Vietnam and Cambodia, where Hanoi's forces installed a client government in January 1979, were recently quelled and their leaders jailed.

Mr. Thongsouk was among officials who tried to form a movement to campaign for multi-party democracy, the Social Democrat Group, according to a newspaper report here last week. The English-language BANGKOK POST also said it had obtained the letter Mr Thongsouk had addressed on August 26 to Laotian leader Kaysone Phnomvihan to resign from his ministerial posting.

In his resignation letter, Mr. Thongsouk denounced the Laotian regime as a "communist monarchy" and a "dynasty of the Politburo." "Laos should change to a multi-party system in order to bring democracy, freedom and prosperity to the people," the letter said.

Vientiane's Foreign Ministry Press Department, contacted on Monday from here by telephone, said it had no information about Mr. Thongsouk's situation.

There had been reports here earlier this year of bloody clashes between troops and pro-democracy demonstrators in northern Laos in which 40 people were said to have died. But Vientiane's pro-Vietnamese Government, which is fighting small groups of insurgents in remote jungle-clad highland areas, dismissed the reported clashes in early March in Xieng Khouang Province as "fabricated." [passage omitted]

Kaysone Phomvihan Speaks on Trade, Tourism

BK2010132090 Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Vientiane, Oct 20 (KPL)—Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, chairman of Council of Ministers, said in his address to the first national conference on trade and tourism held here yesterday that one of the main tasks to be focussed on in the immediate future was the development of productive forces and the gradual transformation of natural and semi-natural economy into a market economy in which trade plays an important role as links in the chain.

Speaking of the policy and measures designed to manage and organize the trade bussiness and tourism system in the coming years, he said efforts must be put on continuing the implementation of free legal distribution policy country-wide, the building of a unified market, and the re-adjustment of supply and demand among different areas.

In addition, he said goods production for export must be strongly promoted on the basis of exploiting and making use effectively of the latent potential, land and natural resources, while cooperating with foreign countries to raise capital, transform technology, and find distribution markets, and investing in the goods production projects capable of competing on the regional and international markets.

On tourism, the CM [Council of Ministers] chairman suggested that tourism be opened selectively while expanding physical, technical and cultural facilities for various tourist areas, and upgrading its services to attract foreigners to visit the country.

As to private trade and services, he said they have to be promoted through enlarging their activities in every area to buy forest and agricultural products from farmers and to make a retail sale of production tools, machineries and commodities to them.

Mekong Bridge Committee Meets in Vientiane

BK1910103890 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Vientiane, Oct 19 (KPL)—The tripartite coordinating committee including Laos, Australia, and Thailand for the construction of the Mekong Bridge held here yesterday a two-day meeting.

The committee, in this meeting, studied socioeconomic and technical data surveyed by a group of Australian engineers since April 1990, as a basis for preparing a final economic and technical analysis to be submitted to the next meeting.

The discussion also covered the joint implementation of the construction work, the management of the bridge between Laos and Thailand after its completion, and the regulations on the bridge use in the future.

The final economic and technical analysis is completed at the end of this year. The design of the bridge and the tender documents for the project construction will be completed in 1991.

The meeting is the fourth of its kind. Laos and Thailand have taken turns in organizing such a meeting in Vientiane and in Bangkok since June 1990.

Philippines

Aquino Discusses Present Economic Crisis

HK2210080190 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1300 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Speech by President Corazon Aquino from the "Magtanong sa Pangulo (Ask the President)" program; place and date not given—recorded in English]

[Text] Viewing this final quarter of 1990 we face a serious economic crisis that should galvanize all of us to concerted effort to convert this adversity into advantage. I have no doubts that I can count on you, my fellow Filipinos, to make use of your time-tested resilience to meet this challenge. Together, let us try to understand the roots of our present economic adversity.

The most immediate cause is the high cost of crude oil, the price of which has more than doubled since trouble erupted in the Middle East last August. There is a distinct possibility that the price may go even higher than the approximately U.S.$30 a barrel prevailing at present. At those exorbitant levels, we will not have the foreign exchange to purchase all the oil that we are presently consuming. That is why I have been working out with my cabinet members contingency plans on how to reduce our consumption of petroleum products should the international price go much beyond its present levels.

This external shock to our country of which we have no control has come at a time when our national economy was already considerably weakened by a protracted drought during the first months of this year. This dry spell caused huge declines in the production of such staple crops like rice and corn. The drought also caused a shortage of hydroelectric power during the first semester which helped bring about the earlier energy crisis during the summer months. With very frequent brownouts, industrial production slowed down, thus causing a deceleration in the growth of our gross national product from 5.7 percent in the whole of 1989 to only 3.4 percent during the first semester of this year.

Another natural disaster that caused serious damage to our economy was the killer quake of July 16 1990. Not only did the calamity reduce both industrial and agricultural production in Northern Luzon, it forced the government to expand its already bloated budget, thus inducing a larger deficit in our public spending. To make matters even worse, the enemies of the state were not satisfied with the damage they inflicted on our international image, especially among foreign investors, by their [word indistinct] attempt to overthrow the government last December. Some of them intensified their terrorist acts during the third quarter of the year, paring even further the already dwindling numbers of foreign investors who still find the Philippines attractive. If these extremists did not create such a negative image of our country, we could still have experienced a significant inflow of foreign investments this year, which could have helped to shore up our international reserves, enabling us to face the present oil crisis with a stronger position.

You may ask why we continue paying our huge foreign debt, when we can use the foreign exchange to purchase oil or channel the savings in our budget to social services that can directly help the large number of very poor Filipinos. Why do we insist on religiously paying our foreign obligations while in the process we are taking resources from the poor? The answer is if we unilaterally repudiate our debt, the poor will suffer even more. Any decision of ours to stop payments of the annual amounts due to our creditors will lead to our being cut off from the international financial community. The little exports we have will dry up because our exporters will not be able to obtain trade credit to finance their operations. Also, since our major markets, the United States and Japan, are also our major creditors, we will have extreme difficulties to continue selling our goods to these same markets. Furthermore, we shall stop receiving official development assistance, which will significantly deplete our already meager international reserves. With our inability to export and the paralysis of our import-dependent industries that would be starved of dollars, hundreds of thousands will be laid off, as happened in 1984 to 1985. The government may be forced to resort to just printing money, which will result in hyperinflation. That was exactly what happened to Peru after the former President Alan Garcia repudiated foreign debt in 1985. After a short-lived burst of economic growth, Peru was forced to print money to finance its social services for the poor. Inflation reached mindboggling proportions. Last year the rate of inflation was 13,000 percent. Who suffered most in Peru? Obviously the poor. The rich actually benefit from hyperinflation because their profits can swell with higher prices. I do not want to inflict the same fate on the Philppine poor. By following the road of negotiations instead of unilateral action, we continue to be in the good graces of the international economic community that will be well disposed to continue helping weather the ongoing economic crisis.

Talking about foreign debt, you must know that the more serious problem we are facing is the burgeoning domestic debt, the debt owed by our government to local creditors, whether individuals or institutions. This domestic debt accounts for more than 60 percent of all the amounts we have to pay annually to amortize the total debt of the country. As you can see, it is not the foreign debt that strains most our limited budget, it is the domestic debt. How did local borrowings become so large? I am sure you have heard of what used to be called jobo bills. These were certificates of indebtedness issued by our government in the last years of the last administration in order to mop up excess liquidity. The excess liquidity was, of course, due to the irresposibility and corruption of some key persons in the previous administration. In order to sell large amounts of government paper, the interest offered was just up to levels of 50 percent or more. This started the regime of very high rates of interest paid by our government on very short- term debt. Although interest rates have gone down from those very high levels of 1984 to 1985, the present government had to continue borrowing short-term money to finance our own large deficits, owing to a continuous shortfall of past revenues as well as greater demands on public funds made by much higher wages of governmenet employees, and by the need to deliver more social and education services to the poor.

I must remind you that since 1986, salaries of teachers, soldiers and other government employees have increased substantially. Also we have been mandated by the new Constitution to make available free secondary education. Larger deficits meant more domestic borrowings which, in turn, led to larger deficits. We must reduce our public deficit, which can be truly considered public enemy number one in the realm of economics. Our spending more than we earn in government revenues is indeed the root of many of our economic problems. Because the government has to borrow from local sources, it competes for the scarce domestic funds available, driving interest rates to high levels. The government prods our private business and makes capital very expensive for them. Thus, local businessmen are deterred from investing. This timid investment behavior leads to an economic slowdown which, in turn, may significantly reduce government revenues, compounding the government deficit problems.

How do we break these vicious cycles? One obvious answer is that we must not relent in our efforts to improve tax collections based on the present tax rates. I must commend Commissioner Jose Ong for a good track record in increasing tax collections. But the government has to collect even more to narrow the yawning gap between revenues and expenses. I know that the members of Congress are reluctant to implement their suggestions to increase the tax rates. We may arrive at a compromise if we concentrate on increasing the taxes only on affluent or conspicuous consumption. The rich can afford to pay high taxes on the goods that they alone can afford to spend for, like expensive cars and frequent travel. Since it is highly unlikely that they will be discouraged from purchasing these luxury items, let the government at least raise more revenue from their love for extravagance.

There is another deficit problem that we must solve. It's called the trade deficit. Simply put, we are currently importing about U.S.$3 billion more than we export. That is why we do not have enough dollars for our even more expensive imports of petroleum. Our energy crisis is not a supply crisis. There is enough, in fact, more than enough, oil in the world. Our problem is we do not have the dollars to buy more expensive oil. That is because we are not earning enough dollars. Until we can have enough foreign exchange to meet a much larger oil import bill, we must reduce our consumption of oil based products. Some are talking about rationing petroleum products. If worst comes to worst, we will have to resort to actual rationing. That means we have to determine priority uses of oil, such as public transportation for the masses or in cooking. But rationing is always an extreme measure, a measure of last resort. It is much more efficient to allow prices to seek market-determined levels so that consumers would automatically adjust their purchases to the amounts they can afford. We are subsidizing from public funds the consumers of petroleum products, further compounding our huge deficit problem. Especially as the world price of petroleum continues its upward trend as a result of the Gulf crisis, we cannot avoid increasing further the domestic prices of petroleum products.

Let it be known that except for industrial fuels, which are very high-cost in the Philippines, our domestic prices for all types of petroleum products are still among the lowest in Asia-Pacific, even after the last hike.

It seems I've been talking to you only of problems. We do have serious problems, but also are facing some very concrete opportunities for everyone to exploit. Although there are varying forecasts for 1991, there is enough evidence to show that the domestic market for all types of consumer goods and services will be strengthening in the next 12 to 18 months. Agriculture is recovering from almost [words indistinct] trade in the first semester. We have initial reports of bumper crops of rice, corn, sugar, and coconut. Since it is our policy to allow domestic prices of rice, corn, and sugar to keep rising so as to benefit millions of farmers with improved income, the bigger volumes coupled with higher prices will mean billions of pesos in the hands of farmers who can then be good markets for industrial products. You may have heard that I just inaugurated the Calabar Zone Special Development Project. These are multi-billion-peso infrastructure in Southern Luzon that will be accelerated in the coming months, thus providing also billions of pesos of purchasing power to the construction workers who will be employed. Together with equally large projects in Southern Mindanao, Northern Mindanao, Western Visayas, and Northern Samar, these infrastructure expenditures in Southern Luzon will strengthen further the domestic market. Businessmen can sell more of their goods.

I want you also to focus on the billions of pesos coming from the dollar earnings of our over a million Philippine workers abroad. These remittances have not been significantly affected by the trouble in Iraq and Kuwait. In fact, there has been an acceleration of remittances from places like Saudi Arabia because of the feelings of insecurity of the Filipino depositors there. Even if less than half of these remittances end up in international reserves because they enter through couriers, the important consideration is that they are actually converted into pesos to help the relatives of the workers. These pesos are going to be spent on goods sold in the domestic market.

I see the very dynamic small and medium-scale enterprises sector, like those in booming Cebu, taking full advantage of a stronger domestic market. I am told by businessmen that their sales are much better in the regions outside Metro Manila. Cebu's dynamism has already become legendary. But also strong are markets in General Santos, Davao, Cagayan de Oro, Iloilo, Bacolod, just to mention a few. In these and other places, there are exporters who will be encouraged to expand because of the higher peso earnings per dollar of goods exported. I understand that financial institutions like the Development Bank of the Philippines are extending special assistance to these exporters. The Bankers Association of the Philippines unanimously agreed to give exporters top priority in the allocation of scarce foreign exchange to enable them to import vital raw materials. This reminds me of a misplaced criticism of exporters like those in garments or semiconductor components. It is said that they do not really benefit the economy because only 10 to 20 percent of their total export value can be considered net foreign exchange earnings because they have to import the bulk of their materials, which they merely process before reexporting. This criticism does not hold water. First, these exporters contribute to generating employment much more than our traditional inward-looking industries. Secondly, even the 10 to 20 percent of their net dollar earnings can significantly exceed the revenues from such traditional export products as sugar and log and lumber. For example, the 20 percent of the over U.S.$2 billion of garments exports is U.S.$400 million. That is much more than the measly U.S.$100 million or so we are now making from our sugar exports, formerly the queen of exports. And I do not even have to mention what is happening to our coconut and log exports. These traditional exports are in the sunset stages. That is why we cannot belittle the nontraditional exports which were the very ones that first made economic tigers out of South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore. With the depreciated peso, of course, there would be stronger incentives for local exporters to make use of indigenous materials to replace some of the imported components. For example, the Cebuanos are very ingenious in converting their stones into very valuable decorative material. I am sure entrepreneurs in other regions can follow the example of the Cebuanos.

To help you convert these opportunities into gainful activities, we in the government will assign the highest priority to policies and programs that will intensify the recovery of the agricultural sector. We shall continue to respect market prices of agricultural products. Especially through the Land Bank, we shall continue to assist and strengthen farmers' cooperatives. The Department of Public Works and Highways will continue to speed up the infrastructure projects that would bring economic opportunities to the countryside, with emphasis on farm-to-market roads.

We shall be unrelenting in our efforts to unplug the pipeline in the absorption of all the official aid being offered to us by our foreign friends, especially through the Philippine Assistance Program. We shall continue to deregulate industries and stay out of the way of businessmen, especially the small-scale entrepreneurs. This deregulation will also extend to foreign investors, who will be subject to less restrictions. These are the few areas on which the government will concentrate its efforts for the remaining months of my administration. In their turn, we would like to ask different sectors to help convert the present crisis into an opportunity to lay the foundation for another economic recovery. To the large firms, we ask you to focus on the opportunities of an expanding domestic market. You can continue to increase your revenues despite the slowing down of the economy. We will not tell you how to protect your bottom line. You know how to be more cost competitive. That is your expertise. To the workers, we ask you to consider the long-term viability of the firms you are working for. For short-term gains, please do not endanger the very existence of your employer firms by asking for unrealistic wage increases. We do not dissuade you from bargaining for higher pay. That is your prerogative. But please make sure that as you obtain your higher pay, you are responding with higher productivity. That is the only way we can prevent hyperinflation in the long run. To the bankers, I do not say that you are doing wrong by enjoying windfall profits from foreign exchange movements, or from the very high rates of interest. You are being benefited by the turn of events. That is part of the ups and downs of business. There is nothing wrong with that. But please make use of your profits to go into more developmental loans. You have to be more active in lending to projects in the countryside, to farmers' cooperatives, to small and medium-scale entrepreneurs who may not have adequate collateral, export-oriented ventures, and to families from low-income households desiring to construct their homes.

To farmers, I ask you to take full advantage of all the incentives being offered by Land Bank and other similar organizations to join farmers' cooperatives which will improve your access to technology inputs and markets. You can do much to strengthen the foundations of the ongoing recovery in agriculture.

To the foreign investment community, I request you to fully inform your colleagues from your home country about the strength and weaknesses of the Philippines. Demonstrate to them that despite the turbulent political environment of the past months, you continue to enjoy reasonable rates of return on your investments. Show them that even the bombings do not negate the advantages of educated manpower and a large domestic market of the Philippines.

To the Manila-based firms, I ask you to travel more to the provinces, to look for markets and investment opportunities. Follow the lead of the Manila investors for a put-in-money on real estate and industrial ventures in Cebu, General Santos City, and other key areas in Visayas and Mindanao. You can help reverse the unhealthy process of the past in which the savings of the regions were invested only in Metro Manila.

To all my fellow Filipinos, I ask you to do what you have always done in moments of crisis. You have always acted with courage, perseverance, and resourcefulness. I am convinced that through the private initiatives of millions of Filipinos we shall survive this crisis and come out firmer in our resolve to build a stronger economy and a more just and humane society.

Aquino Orders Ten Percent Cut in Oil Supplies

HK1910140590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 1300 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] President Aquino has ordered a ten percent cut in the daily ration of petroleum products. In doing so, the government's 70-day inventory of petroleum products may last until the end of the year. If rationing is not implemented, the oil supply will reach the critical level of a 50-day supply.

Shell, Caltex and Petron have been ordered to cut their supply to gas dealers by ten percent. For the month of September alone, the price of crude oil has already reached $28.33/barrel.

Meanwhile, Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig has ordered any gas dealer to report plans of closure or transfer four months before implementation so as to avoid any artificial shortage.

Aquino Urges Support for Food Production

HK2210084790 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0230 GMT 22 Oct 90

[By Tanny Rodriguez from "Malacanang Information Service"; place and date not given—live or recorded; in English]

[Text] President Aquino exhorted the citizenry to actively engage in community-level activities to ensure abundance of food for the country and food for the future. The president also called for renewed commitment to protect the environment, saying only intensive and massive mobilization of our manpower and natural resources can effectively revive a weary environment and yield the food and finances that we urgently need. She added that powered by the local government and arm-in-arm with organized groups, these massive programs are seeing effective action at the community level.

The president pointed out that her administration had not harped on the sins of the past to solve the problems of the future and had taken steps to destroy the cycle of poverty and environmental decay on three fronts. These steps comprise the granting of security of tenure to farmers, the slowing down of population growth, and providing alternative livelihood by developing the industrial sector.

The president spelled out her administration's various programs to help bring about abundance in food. They are the following: The formulation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program, which provides the incentive for the adoption of sustainable agricultural technologies. These technologies ensure that the present generation will consume the interest on the land but not the natural capital base; reaffirmation of the primacy of agriculture in the country's development efforts; the value support programs [word indistinct] by frontline agencies emphasizing community participation, such as the Department of Agriculture's livelihood enhancement for agriculture development, the rice action program, the multi-livestock dispersal loan program, the corn productivity enhancement, and the recently launched vegetable development programs; the province-wide Agrarian Reform Program in Negros Occidental by the Department of Agrarian Reform; and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources nationwide reforestation program.

The president said in general, these programs covered community organizing, training assistance and securing or improving resource tenure, and research on and extension of appropriate production technologies at a modest provision of credit. She also emphasized the creation of a presidential task force to implement a 10-billion-peso rehabilitation plan in order to contain the harmful effects of the recent earthquake on the environment and on food production and supply, among others.

Report on Additional Foreign Loans Incurred

HK2210031090 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 22 Oct 90 pp 1, 4

[By Cris V. Paraiso, reporter]

[Text] The Philippine Government, including government-owned and controlled corporations, incurred additional foreign loans amounting to $278.881 million for the third quarter of this year ending last Sept. 30.

In a report to Senate President Jovito R. Salonga concerning the public sector foreign loans as approved by the Monetary Board, Central Bank [CB] Governor Jose L. Cuisia, Jr. said the new loans were "sourced primarily from official credit sources and supplies."

Almost all of the approved loans, or $260.692 million (93.48%), have maturities ranging from 20 to 35 years, while the balance, $18.189 million (6.52%) is payable in 7 ½ to 10 ½ years.

Mr Cuisia said the remaining 6.52% of the loans are chargeable against the International Monetary Fund's "ceiling on foreign borrowings." He said no publicly guaranteed loan by the private sector was approved by the Central Bank for the same period.

The CB governor's report said the new loans will finance the following projects: RP [Republic of the Philippines]/World Bank [WB] Small Coconut Farms Development Project, $121.800 million (20 years to pay with five years grace at 0.5% over WB's cost of qualified borrowings); RP/Asian Development Bank [ADB] Sorsogon Integrated Project, $25.990 million; Non-governmental Organization Micro-credit Project, $8.223 million; and Infrastructure Restoration Project, $20,556 million (all at 35 years with 10 years grace).

The Japanese Government through the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund pitched in $36.723 million for the Metro Manila Depressed Area Electrification Project under the 15th Yen credit package (30 years with 10 years grace at 2.7%) while the United States Government paved the way for the importation of soybean meal under the US Public Law 480 Title I program (31 yeras with five years grace at 2% for the first five years and 3% thereafter).

The loans also covered financing for the National Power Corp/KFW [expression unknown]/Nichimen Corp. rehabilitation of the Cebu Thermal Power Plant II project, $15.748 million (nine years with half-a-year grace at 8.3% for KFW and 10 years with five years grace at London Interbank Offered Rate plus 0.875% for Nichimen); Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System/ADB Metro Manila Supply Rehabilitation Project, $26.4 million (24 years with four years grace at cost of qualified borrowings plus spread); and the National Food Authority/Northern Engineering Industries Power Project Ltd. United Kingdom (suppliers credit) importation of a rice-husk-fueled power station for the Iloilo Grains Center in Jaro, Iloilo, $2,441 million (7.5 years with one year grace at 7.5%).

Civil Servants Start Week-Long Wage Protest

HK2210030490 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 22 Oct 90 pp 1, 26

[By E. T. Suarez]

[Text] Several groups of government employees start today a week-long mass action to press their demand for a P [peso] 1,000 across-the-board salary increase. But the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and other government agencies assured that work will be normal today and the rest of the week in public offices, saying the big organizations of government workers are not joining the protests.

The Confederation of Government Employees (COGEO), Samahan ng mga Kawani sa BIR [Bureau of Internal Revenue], and Comelec [Commission on Elections] Employees Association, said they are not joining the public protest set to start today.

On the other hand, the Caucus of Independent Unions in the Public Sector (CIU) which has been batting for the restoration of P1,000 cost-of-living-allowance (COLA) for government workers, and the Public Sector Labor Integrative Center (Pslinc) have not made any announcement about today's mass action.

Carol Almeda, president of the Confederation for Unity, Recognition and Advancement of Government Employes (COURAGE) and spokesperson of Wage Adjustment for all Government Employes Solidarity

(WAGES), said the week-long mass action starts today with the setting up of a "protest camp" in front of the Senate building.

Almeda said nightly vigils will be held at the protest camp and employees at the government center in Quezon City will converge at the Quezon City Memorial Circle for a rally.

Tomorrow, Tuesday, Almeda said the mass actions will be in the form of a noon-time noise barrage in all government offices.

She said mass actions will heighten on Oct. 24 with a nationally coordinated protest action in the form of walkouts, work slowdown, and mass demonstration. Employees in Metro Manila will March to Malacanang for a whole-day demonstration, she said.

"The walkout in government offices, schools and hospitals coincides with the Oct. 24 general strike called by organized labor led by the Labor Advisory and Consultative Council," Almeda said. "We are determined to carry on with our protest actions until the government heeds our just demands."

Almeda said that joining the protest actions are the Manila Public School Teachers Association (MPSTA), Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT), Alliance of Government Financial Institution Employees (AGFIE), Public Employees and Officials for Nationalism (PEONS), Alliance of Health Workers, and the Philippine Government Employes Association (PGEA).

Fr. Jun. Mercado, spokesman of the People's Caucus, a newly formed alliance of several cause-oriented and sectoral organizations, said they will join street demonstrations if the government fails to respond to the workers' demands.

"Aside from immediate and adequate wage increases, the People's Caucus is asking the government to declare a moratorium on debt servicing, stoppage of increases in the prices of oil and other commodities, and the junking of the IMF-World Bank impositions on Philippine economy," Mercado said.

Government Said Prepared

HK2210052390 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Malacanang is allegedly prepared to face a protest launched by government employees in Metro Manila today. Press Assistant Secretary Didi Siytangco stated that President Corazon Aquino is hoping that the mass action will not adversely affect government agencies' normal operations. Siytangco stressed that at present, government employees' conditions are good and that there should be no reason for them to carry out this move which could result in more serious problems.

YOU 'Forging' Alliance With Communist Rebels

HK2210030590 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 22 Oct 90 pp 1, 3

[By Manny Mogato, staffmember]

[Text] The underground Young Officers Union (YOU) is forging tactical alliances with the communist guerrillas and other anti-government forces in an effort to unseat President Aquino before the May 1992 elections.

Renegade army Maj. Abraham Purruganan, a YOU leader, said rebel soldiers had joined forces with opposition groups, including a group of politicians, to offer an alternative government. Purruganan, together with four civilians who belong to a group called Democratic Front for Filipinism (DFF), a civilian political arm of YOU, was interviewed Saturday in a Quezon City safehouse.

The DFF, according to its secretary-general who identified himself as Felix Servando, is prepared to work as a coordination and liaison group for anti-government forces in preparation for a civiliian-military uprising.

The underground forces are taking advantage of the perceived waning popularity of Mrs Aquino, her government's poor handling of the political and economic crisis, and the growing clamor among the people for changes in government and leadership to get support for its organizations and to prepare for a situation favorable to a popular uprising.

In its clandestine press conference, the DFF issued a "nationalist program of government," which emphasized drastic organizational reforms in the armed forces, educational system, political and diplomatic policies. The groups also vowed to pursue economic reforms aimed at giving local industries and businessmen priority over foreign-owned corporations.

Purruganan said YOU had been talking with other military rebel factions, communist guerrillas and separatist rebels to strengthen its position against the government.

Other mass-based organizations, especially those from the Left, "are very enthusiastic about joining hands and setting aside certain ideological and political differences to work on a common goal of national survival," Servando told reporters.

He said the DFF and the YOU had been pressing to organize the people, train militias and prepare their forces for a final confrontation with the government.

"Sa plano namin, particular na sa YOU, isang big bang na lang [Our plan, particularly that of the YOU, is for one big bang only]," Purruganan said. "We don't want to lose ... when it comes to mini-revolts, parang muscle flexing na lang iyan dahil gusto namin kung gagawa kami ng isang move, tapos na iyon at importante ngayon iyong paghahanda ng mga masa para sa ganitong hakbang [that is just muscle flexing because if we wanted to make a move, that would have been done but what is important now is to prepare the masses for this kind of move]."

He said the failed Mindanao rebellion was a tactical flop, but it was also a political victory for the rebel forces "because it validated the YOU strategy of enlisting organized mass support for any action in the future."

The DFF is committed to a Filipino-First policy, nationalizing the oil industries, scrapping the import-liberalization program, the debt-moratorium plan and abolition of the debt-to-equity policy.

Politically, it seeks to replace Congress with a unicameral parliamentary form of government. It advocates federalization, local autonomy and the termination of all military treaties with the U.S.

On military reforms, it intended to abolish the general headquarters and give the major service commanders more power and authority. A joint chiefs of staff office was proposed to cut down the red tape.

Suspected Communist Terrorists Burn Buses

HK2210014590 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Suspected urban terrorists burned two passenger buses in Makati and Pasig yesterday. According to witnesses, six suspected members of the terrorist squad of the Communist Party of the Philippines burned a Philtransit air-conditioned bus in Washington Street, corner Gil Puyat Avenue in Makati yesterday at 1000. No one was reported injured in the incident.

Meanwhile, another passenger bus, owned by G. Liner, was also set on fire by six armed terrorists in Ortigas Avenue, Pasig at 0100 yesterday afternoon. In both incidents, the passengers, conductors, and drivers were all ordered to alight before the terrorists poured gasoline inside the buses and then set them alight. While the communists were carrying out what the police called a vendetta, their guns were pointed at the passengers to prevent them from calling for help from the police.

NPA Rebels Said Slain in Negros Occidental

HK2010065590 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0620 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Report by Jim Bilasano from Camp Aguinaldo—live or recorded]

[Text] Five NPA [New People's Army] rebels were killed in an encounter with Army troopers in Negros Occidental yesterday. According to reports reaching Army chief Major General Guillermo Flores, at around 0530 yesterday, elements of the Third Special Forest Batallion of the Special Forces Regiment of the Philippine Army, together with Civilian Active Auxiliary Brigade under the leadership of Captain Abdul Nasser Kasi, were undertaking a raid at an NPA hide-out at Hacienda Mercedes, barangay Angang, La Castillana, Negros Occidental, when they met with an undetermined number of NPA rebels.

The encounter between government troopers and NPA rebels lasted for 15 minutes, which resulted in five casualties among the communist rebels. The rest of the rebels then ran in separate directions. Three M-16 rifles, one M-14 rifle, one Garand rifle, and an Icom hand-held radio were recovered from the rebels. No casualties were reported on the government troopers side. The slain communist rebels have not yet been identified.

Agusan NPA 'Demoralized' by Melecio's Surrender

HK2210030690 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 22 Oct 90 p 8

[By Mike Crimundo]

[Text] Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur—The New People's Army (NPA) group here suffered a severe blow with the unexpected surrender of its main regional unit 1 (MRGU1) commander.

Lt. Col. Bartolome V. Baluyot (DSC) [expansion unknown] Agusan del Sur PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] provincial commander, said the surrender of Eduardo Melecio, alias "Commander Rambo," has demoralized the communist movement in the area.

Miltary, NPA Reportedly To Exchange Prisoners

HK2210122490 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Report by Benjie de Galicia from Quezon Province—live or recorded]

[Text] There has been a secret agreement between troops of the rebel New People's Army [NPA] and a military official here in Quezon asking for the exchange of four prisoners for an amazon [female NPA member] who is a prisoner of the military. The four prisoners of the Mario Corpus command were identified as PC [Philippine Constabulary] Corporal Inostorio Batucabe of the R-2 Division, stationed at Canlubang, Laguna; and Felix Hernandez and Eduardo Arazola, both government soldiers. The amazon, whose name was not given, is now under the custody of the 236th PC company in the town of Infanta, Quezon. We shall closely monitor the events that are to take place during this exchange between the New People's Army and the military.

Thailand

Arrest Warrants Issued for Student Activists

BK1910163490 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] The police have concluded from a preliminary investigation that the so-called Revolutionary Council was behind the protest rally of the students of Ramkhamhaeng University. Several leading activists at the rally at Ramkhamhaeng University were found to have connections with the Revolutionary Council. The

Police Department has therefore advised the public prosecutor to seek court approval to revoke bail on the 17 members of the Revolutionary Council. The police have issued arrest warrants for the 17 persons. The director general of the Police Department, Police General Sawaeng Thiraswat, has ordered authorities to arrest only the leading core of the movement for legal action.

Six 'Alleged' Agitators Arrested; Others Sought

BK2010034790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Six alleged agitators were rounded up in separate police raids early yesterday morning and police continued their hunt for more than a dozen other suspects, including Revolutionary Council founder Prasoet Sapsunthon.

The six suspects included five Ramkhamhaeng University students: Somkiat Limprasitthiwong, Somkiat Phetariyawong, Sunthon Khongchu, Narongsak Mani and Wanchai Chunphong, and one revolutionary Council member, Nikhom Keson. All except Sunthon Khongchu and Somkiat Phetariyawong were on bail on charges of inciting public unrest at Sanam Luang during February-March this year and at a Bangkok hotel last year. Their bail, however, was revoked by the Criminal Court on Thursday.

Wanchai and Narongsak admitted to reporters yesterday that they took part in the rallies at Ramkhamhaeng University. They also said they were bailed out to join the protests.

Meanwhile, the Criminal Court yesterday ordered the withdrawal of bail granted to 12 members of the self-proclaimed Revolutionary Council as requested by the Public Prosecution Department. Among them are Prasoet Sapsunthon, Rainan Arunrangsi, Thongkham Wirat, Pradoem Butdi, Chaloem Sirikhet, Kritsana Phimphakon, Chuphong Thiethuan, Yongyut Watthanawikon, Wanchai Phrompa, Phaithun Seniwong na Ayutthaya, Wanlop Choeiphon and Nikhom Keson.

Backing up its request, the Public Prosecution Department charged that the 12 men were behind the recent anti-government protests which led to the self-immolation of a Ramkhamhaeng University student, Thanawut Khlingchua, on Sunday. Additional charges of inciting public unrest and illegal political gathering were yesterday slapped on Prasoet Sapsunthon, Chuasae An, Saman Si-ngam and Nikhom Keson following an approval from Interior Permanent Secretary Anan Anantakun at the request of police.

On Thursday, the Criminal Court revoked bail for seven out of 18 alleged agitators arrested, also on charges of inciting public unrest, at Sanam Luang early this year. They are Thirawat Muangkaeo, Saman Singam, Narongsak Mani, Chaiyong Rattanawan, Ekkasit Tharilaprak, Somkiat Limprasitthiwong and Wanchai Chuwong.

Chief investigator of the case involving the recent spate of protests, Pol Maj-Gen [Police Major-General] Charuk Mekwichai, said yesterday that a hunt was continuing for those still at large, including Prasoet whose whereabouts are still unknown. A relative of Prasoet in Surat Thani Province, Mrs Prani Kopsuwan, told the BANGKOK POST yesterday that he had not returned home since his mother's death a few years ago. She said she had no idea where he was.

Police Director-General Sawaeng Thirasawat yesterday explained that police had asked for the withdrawal of bail for the 19 suspects because they had sufficient evidence indicating that they were involved in recent public disturbances. Another protest against the government was held at Ramkhamhaeng University yesterday afternoon.

Alleged Agitator Asks for Peaceful Demonstration

BK2210015590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Prasoet Sapsunthon, the alleged leader of recent anti-government protests, has called for a peaceful demonstration for democracy. Mr Prasoet's call was carried in a six-page, hand-written letter distributed to the media yesterday.

The ex-communist defector was widely reported in the Press yesterday to have gone into hiding at the home of a senior military officer after an arrest warrant was issued for him last week for allegedly instigating student protests.

Mr Prasoet, who was released on bail last year after being arrested for calling for the abrogation of Parliament along with a dozen other people, claimed in the letter that the present parliamentary system was not the same as that envisioned by King Rama VII in 1932 at the end of the absolute monarchy. He charged that the Thai democratic system has been distorted into a kind of dictatorship in which people take turns holding power. In a real democracy, he said, the sovereign power must belong to the people, not "come" from the people as stated in the Constitution.

Describing the democratic system as having hit its lowest point in its 58-year history, Mr Prasoet said the crisis of confidence facing the present Government warranted an urgent change to a true democracy. He called on the public to join him in a peaceful demonstration to create the change.

Meanwhile, Chat Thai MP for Nakhon Si Thammarat Han Linanon said yesterday he did not believe the so-called "Democratic Soldiers" were also involved in the student protest at Ramkhamhaeng University; which led to one student setting himself on fire.

Gen [General] Han, who is a former Fourth Army commander, said he personally used to have close contact with this military, movement and saw no reason why the group would get involved. He said he personally knew Mr Prasoet but had not been in touch either with the man or the Democratic Soldiers for a long time. He said he and the Democratic Soldiers used to share the same political ideology and had helped push for Prime Ministerial Order No. 66/23, which led to the cessation of the armed struggle by the Communist Party of Thailand. He said, however, the movement's desire to see social justice and full democracy would come about only through time and gradual, peaceful change.

Students Continue Protest, Want Peers Released

BK2210033190 Bangkok THE NATION in English 22 Oct 90 p a 2

[Text] Ramkhamhaeng University activists, defying threats of a police crackdown, continued their anti-government protest yesterday and demanded the immediate release of seven of their colleagues arrested over the weekend. The protesters, trying to revive debate on one of Thailand's most bitter subjects, accused Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan and his Chat Thai Party of being involved in the massacre of students at Thammasat University on Oct 6, 1976.

Hundreds of people attended the rally at Ramkhamhaeng's Hua Mark campus, during which protest leaders declared that they were enjoying increased public support despite police threats to get tough with "agitators". The crowd, however, diminished rapidly late in the evening. "We will fight until we win. We will continue to come up with new strategies," a protester said.

Sources close to the demonstrators said one of the plans was to revive accusations about the Thammasat bloodbath in order to discredit Prime Minister Chatchai. Mobs killed protesting students inside the Thammasat campus on the morning of Oct 6, 1976 after a well planned rightist propaganda campaign successfully portrayed student activists as communists. The Chat Thai Party identified itself with the rightist movement during that turbulent period of Thai history.

During yesterday's demonstration, protesters read out a letter by late Democrat Party executive Surin Matsadit which implied that Chatchai, who was industry minister in 1976, and the Chat Thai Party sought the use of force to crush the vocal student movement. Yesterday's protest took place one week after a Ramkhamhaeng activist, Thanawut Khlingchua, set himself on fire to support his group's demand that the government immediately resign. He died last Thursday.

Following Thanawut's death, police arrested seven activists on charges of trying to instigate unrest and threatened to roundup more. Protesters yesterday challenged police to arrest them, stating they were demonstrating peacefully. One of them vowed to burn himself to death if Prime Minister Chatchai challenged students to do so in exchange for his resignation.

Police yesterday would not confirm an AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE report that Prasoet Sapsunthon, leader of the secretive Revolutionary Council alleged to have masterminded the radical protest by Ramkhamhaeng students, had been arrested. Warrants have been issued for the arrest of Prasoet and more than 20 other members of the Revolutionary Council, including another leader of the movement, Rainan Arunrangsi.

Two arrested students, Somkiat Phetariyawong and Sunthon Khongchu, told reporters yesterday Prasoet was not involved in their group's activity. But Prasoet issued a bulletin to student protesters from his hideout on Saturday, demanding a referendum to determine whether the public still accepted the current administration. Somkiat and Sunthon also denied that their fellow activists were responsible for a bomb threat Saturday morning against the Chanasongkram police station, where the two were detained before being moved to the Bang Khen police academy.

An anonymous caller had called the police station saying it would be bombed unless Somkiat and Sunthon were freed immediately, according to police. Chua Sae An, the seventh student to be arrested, said before his capture that student activists would resort to violent means to press for the release of their colleagues.

Metropolitan Police Commissioner Police Lieutenant Gen [General] Wirot Pao-in visited the Chanasongkram station yesterday morning following the bomb threat. Also yesterday, a student activist emerged to claim total responsibility for the radical anti-government campaign.

Detsak Pamaranon said he failed to prevent Thanawut's suicide because the incident took place when he was away from Bangkok. "We did not want it to happen. We tried to stop it but we were just too late," Detsak said at the rally. Detsak was arrested early this year following a prolonged protest by the Revolutionary Council against the government at Sanam Luang. he was later released on bail.

Rainan's wife, meanwhile, denied that her husband was involved in the current campaign to bring down the Chatchai government. Manwipa Arunrangsi said Rainan had distanced himself from the Revolutionary Council since his arrest last year. Prasoet and Rainan were among a dozen of the council's key members arrested after issuing a statement declaring their organization had become a legitimate parliament. They were later freed on bail. Manwipa said Rainan was very surprised to learn that police believed he was involved with the current protest.

Chawalit Says Immolation Preventable

BK2010090290 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Former army chief Chawalit Yongchaiyut said yesterday that police should not have allowed members of the Revolutionary Council to participate in a dramatic protest against the Government highlighted by a student setting himself on fire last Sunday.

Gen [General] Chawalit quoted Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun and Supreme Commander Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong as saying that police should immediately arrest those behind the scenes.

Negligence

He said police assigned to guard the protest site in front of the Ramkhamhaeng University campus that day should not have neglected to stop Thanawut Khlingchua from setting himself on fire. Asked to comment on criticism that he himself was also behind the scenes, Gen Chawalit said he has always been accused of everything.

Meanwhile, he welcomed the call by student leaders for the Government to open an extraordinary House session to debate the corruption issue. The students made the call when they appeared on a television programme on Wednesday. Gen Chawalit said that such an idea should have been raised a long time ago.

Paper Discusses Immolation, Political Options

BK2010160190 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 20 Oct 90 p 8

[Editorial: "The Only Option Left"]

[Text] The BANGKOK BUSINESS newspaper on 19 October published a letter from student Thanawut Khlingchua, who said that he was not paid to die, that he was not a hired, but a true revolutionary who wished to see his country prosper and the people happy, and that he wanted democracy. If those are truly his words, Thanawut achieved only the wish to die. His other wishes to see the people happy and the country prosperous and enjoying democracy remain unfulfilled. It can be said that he died for nothing. The public felt sorry for his death. He died for a great cause, but it is too much to expect that his death would touch off a general uprising to change the economic, social, and political system to bring happiness to the people.

Some people may think that he died for nothing. Yet, it cannot be denied that his death reflected that the government has failed in its administration.

There is a general feeling among the public that this government has done nothing really to solve the political problems. It has carried out a cabinet reshuffle, but just to prolong its survival. The reshuffle was motivated by favoritism and had no effect in improving the image of the government. Several cabinet ministers should have been sacked in order to give a cleaner image to the government, but the prime minister dared not touch them because he was afraid that the stability of his government would be at stake. He lacked the courage to take action even though there were methods available to achieve a compromise and a smooth settlement among the coalition parties.

It is expected that another reshuffle would involve some changes at the ministries not affected in the previous reshuffle. The ministers whose honesty and political principles are questioned by the opposition would certainly remain in their offices. As a result, the reshuffle would not tone down the negative criticism against the government, both from its political opponents and the general public.

If the prime minister insists upon effecting another cabinet reshuffle in order to solve the problem, this reshuffle must be carried out seriously. His government must be ready to sacrifice some of its coffers. In fact, the government should have no trouble concerning this since the prime minister holds a large coffer himself.

If a substantial cabinet reshuffle cannot be carried out, the prime minister should dissolve the parliament and hold another election. This, anyway, is the best solution and it is the only option left if we want to get rid of the present political tension and preserve our democratic system.

Cambodian Factions May Be Facing 'Last Chance'

BK2010094590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Oct 90 p 8

[Editorial: "Cambodia's Last Chance"]

[Text] Fighting inside Cambodia has intensified in recent weeks. Both the government troops and Cambodian resistance guerrillas are locked in fierce battles yet again in this country—after a brief lull during the peace negotiations in Bangkok last month. It is unfortunate that after all these years, the Cambodian factions still think that they can gain from the battlefields what they cannot attain at the negotiating table.

The battles flare up as concerned parties, especially the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, continue their joint efforts to look for (a) way to end the 12-year-old conflict.

The UN General Assembly has already recognized the urgency of bringing peace to the war-torn country by unanimously approving the UN resolution on the situation in Cambodia, which used to draw fierce debates from UN members since 1979. The permanent five have urged the Cambodian groups to break the deadlock in the peace process and work for a peaceful settlement. The UN awaits the representatives of the Supreme National Council (SNC) to occupy the vacate UN seat. Instead, they returned to the battlefields.

With the establishment of the SNC recently, the international community is hopeful that peace will soon come to Cambodia and at least there is a legitimate interim authority representing Cambodia's sovereignty and independence to deal with the UN and the rest of the world. Eight weeks have elapsed and the warring factions remain as intransigent as ever. Although both the resistance and Phnom Penh sides agreed that Prince Norodom Sihanouk should be the chairman of the SNC, they disagree over minute points. The resistance has rejected Phnom Penh's suggestion that its premier, Hun Sen, be the council's vice-chairman. This point has blocked any progress on the peace talks among the Cambodians.

Non-Cambodian players are wary of the unyielding attitude of both sides. It seems that now any progress in the future is only possible if all Cambodian parties stick to the Jakarta communique on the composition of the interim authority comprising the original 12 members, six from each side. Sihanouk will serve as the chairman but he must be one of the six representing the resistance. Furthermore, Sihanouk, who is now residing in North Korea, has to get involved in the peace negotiations. At the same time, Sihanouk can no longer afford to be mercurial or ambiguous. His clear guidance and vision is crucial if the peace negotiations are to go anywhere.

Indonesia and France, as co-chairmen of international peace talks on Cambodia, are trying to organize a new round of meetings to draw up a comprehensive peace plan with the participation of all Cambodia factions together with the co-chairmen of various committees, which [were] agreed upon last year at the paris conference on Cambodia. However, without gaining any solid support among the Cambodian factions, it would be hard to put down the peace framework on paper.

In the next few weeks, however, if the Cambodians cannot arrive at an agreement, there is a possibility that the concerned committees on Cambodia will put together on their own a peace plan, which could be imposed on them. Concerned countries would like to see the UN peace keeping forces inside Cambodia and that a ceasefire plan be implemented before a free and fair election is held.

In the end, the Cambodians have to demonstrate to the world that when they are left to decide for themselves the destiny of their country, they can sit down and agree peacefully without indulging in self-interest and verbal onslaughts. They should stop thinking that time is on their side and they can continue to play games. Time is running out for them and the international community is occupied with a myriad of questions of the global magnitude. While the world looks on and is willing to help, the Cambodians should not let this great opportunity pass by them.

Neutral Camp Proposed for Cambodian Refugees

BK2210100990 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] The neutral refugee camp at Khao I-Dang near the Thai-Cambodian border focuses on providing training for displaced Cambodians before their repatriation or resettlement in third countries. Director General of the Foreign Ministry's International Organization Department Kasit Phirom said the establishment of the neutral refugee camp has been agreed upon by the National Security Council, the Ministries of Defense, Foreign Affairs, and Interior who [as heard] also agreed that financial support for the camp establishment be sought from International Organizations, such as the United Nations and European Community. The proposal has already been submitted to the Cabinet for consideration.

The director general said the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the Thai Government, and all four Cambodian factions had worked out a repatriation plan for Cambodian refugees after a peaceful settlement to the Cambodian conflict. However, the repatriation will be carried out under a voluntary basis taking into account the safety of displaced Cambodians. There are currently more than 10,000 Cambodians in the neutral camp.

Lao Dissidents Form Group, Work for Democracy

BK2010030090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Laotian communist dissidents, including senior government officials, have formed a group to work for the establishment of a multiparty democracy in their country and are increasingly engaging in criticism of their one-party government, sources inside the country said.

It has been reported that more than 40 top level officials in Laos have formed the "Social Democrat Group" and have criticised the Government at their meetings.

The group is composed of intellectuals reportedly of cabinet rank and director-general level officials from various ministries. One of them is Thongsouk Saysangkhi, former deputy minister of science and technology, who recently resigned his position following his attack on the Government for "cheating the people". He has been arguing that the present one-party system will not help the country to progress.

In his resignation letter, a copy of which has been received by the BANGKOK POST, Mr Thongsouk said that he had faithfully served the government during the last 15 years with the hope of bringing progress to the country and giving freedom to the people. However, the Government did not keep its promises to the people. He said he was against the one-party policy. Mr Thongsouk also said he would return to the Government all of the victory medals he has received from it.

Another former Laotian communist who also resigned from the Communist Party said that since April this year their group had been openly criticising the Government

Young Laotian intellectuals who graduated from foreign countries—mainly from communist bloc countries—have been joining the Social Democrat Group.

One source said that since the communist victory in late 1975, more than 20,000 young Laotians had been sent to study in foreign countries, mainly the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. More than 3,000 of them have completed their education and returned in Laos. But about half of them have fled into exile because they felt that they could do nothing to help the people under the present ruling clique.

These Laotian foreign graduates had formed groups in foreign countries and were working against the Government, he said. They are attempting to change the one-party system in their country, he said. "We want our country to have democracy, have general elections and not be under the influence of Vietnam," he said.

Meanwhile, a member of the Lao People's Supreme Assembly said yesterday that the first national constitution of Laos drafted since the communist victory 15 years ago is expected to be promulgated after the 4th National Congress to be held in the middle of next month.

Noubeng Chanthasak, who was in Thailand to attend the Third General Assembly of the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development held in Bangkok this week, said the delay in the constitutional draft was because it must correspond to the needs of the people and must be a perfect draft. The draft has been completed and published for the general public to study and express their opinions. However, it is expected that the National Congress will accept this constitution, he said.

Mr Noubeng said the constitution was designed for the Lao people and did not have any link to the Vietnamese national constitution as some people mistakenly thought. Asked whether or not Laos will have a multiparty system and a general election rather than its present one-party system, Mr Noubeng said this will be up to the decision of the people.

At present Laos has only one party, the Communist Party of Laos, but if the people want to have more parties, the Government will follow their wishes, he said. Mr Noubeng, who is also a Vice President of the Commission for Socio-Cultural Affairs, insisted his government would always act in accordance with the wishes of the people.

Embassy Source Says Mahathir Win 'Preferable'

BK2010042590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Oct 90 p 2

[Report by Sonny Inbaraj and Kunlachada Chaiphiphat: "Thailand Prefers Mahathir Retaining Power in Election"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur—For the sake of preserving the existing status quo in Thai-Malaysia relations, it is preferable that the present Malaysian Government led by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad be returned to power in the general election today, a Thai diplomatic source said here today. The diplomat in the Thai Embassy, who declined to give his name, said Malaysia and Thailand had traditionally enjoyed good ties since the country attained independence in 1957, and any change in the present government's administration could cause anxiety to Bangkok. "We're not certain how the opposition alliance led by Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah would view Thailand if they form the next government," said the diplomat.

Referring to a report in the THE NATION on October 15, that Muslim rebels in southern Thailand would continue to be given sanctuary in the northeastern Malaysian state of Kelantan, should the opposition Islamic fundamentalist Parti Islam Malaysia (PAS) take over the state, he said the embassy had received reports that PAS had been using the issue to campaign in areas along the Thai- Malaysia border where fundamentalist Malays form the majority. "We've already informed our consulate in Kelantan, and are keeping a close watch on the political developments there," he said.

PAS ruled Kelantan from 1960 to 1978 and was ousted from power by the National Front coalition. "The ties between Malaysia and Thailand have improved tremendously during the Prem and Chatchai administrations, and we don't want it to be jeopardized by a new one that we're unfamiliar with," he said. "The relations between the two countries was further strengthened when the Communist Party of Malaysia (CPM) decided to lay down their arms last December. All the while the CPM had been a thorn in the flesh of Thai-Malaysia relations with Malaysia accusing Thailand of providing refuge to the CPM," he added. "We've come so far, so we cannot afford the risk of going backwards."

Thai ties with Kuala Lumpur also were reinforced with Mahathir's visit to Thailand in April where both countries were able to conclude an agreement on the establishment of a joint authority to regulate the joint exploration of gas and oil reserves in the 7,300 square kilometres of overlapping territory in the Gulf of Thailand, he said.

It took almost 11 years for both countries to agree to sign a memorandum of understanding since former Premier Kriangsak Chamanan and his Malaysian counterpart the late Datuk Hussein Onn first started negotiations to settle a dispute over this area, that has come to be called the Joint Development Area (JDA), he added. "With the present Gulf crisis in the Middle East, we want the JDA to work because Thailand needs to find new oil sources," he said. The JDA is expected to start operations in January next year. The area is known to have about 7.5 trillion cubic feet of gas reserves.

The diplomat agreed that at times it was difficult to get a true and fair view of the political happenings in Malaysia compared to the time when Sitthi Sawetsila was foreign minister. "Malaysian officials are not as helpful as they were during Sitthi's time because they are still not very familiar with the new Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan," he said. The diplomat said relying on local press reports about the actual political situation was also difficult because most of the newspapers were controlled by the government. "Bangkok often wants us to quote official sources and substantiate our observations. If the media is controlled we cannot give an accurate assessment."

The diplomat added that it might be difficult for Mahathir to get a two-thirds majority in parliament, though Bangkok would prefer that the premier does. For the first time in Malaysia's 33-year history, Mahathir's National Front coalition is challenged by a multi-racial opposition alliance led by his arch-rival Razaleigh.

Razaleigh has brought into his fold the pro-Chinese rightist multi-racial Democratic Action Party, the Islamic fundamentalist PAS, the All-Malaysian Indian Progressive Front and Christian-based Parti Bersatu Sabah. Analysts say this will be one of the most bitter elections since independence.

Military To Closely Watch Burmese Dissidents

BK2110083590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Oct 90 p 4

[Text] Thai military intelligence will collect information on Burmese dissidents, members of Burma's anti-government ethnic minorities and on Rangoon's intelligence agents operating in the Kingdom, a military source said. The order was issued in the wake of a bomb explosion in the compound of the Burmese Embassy on Sathon Road on Wednesday morning [17 October]. Embassy officials believe the home-made bomb was the work of Burmese dissidents living illegally in Thailand.

The source said that many Bumese dissidents live in apartments behind Indra Hotel and near Ramkhamhaeng University. Burmese dissidents living in a house in Minburi District were first believed to have been behind the embassy bombing, but that has now been ruled out, the source said.

Several thousand Burmese fled to Thailand after the bloody crackdown on democracy demonstrations over two years ago. About 800 receive 3,000 baht a month each and some 60 Burmese Buddhist monks get 2,000 baht each from a UN relief agency. They are told not to get involved in politics, but some interpret that to apply only to armed struggle.

Thai intelligence units are tracing Burmese intelligence agents here because top Burmese military officers told visiting Thai officers in Rangoon early last year that Burma would send intelligence men to operate in Thailand, the source said. Burmese intelligence men might have set off the embassy bomb to prompt Thai authorities to take action against Burmese dissidents, the source said.

Meanwhile, the Third Army will next week hold a meeting to consider distributing a fund to compensate Thai villagers whose property was destroyed during fighting between Burmese troops and minority rebels under the Karen National Union (KNU). A Thai Army source said yesterday about 19.2 million baht will be paid to villagers in five villages of Mae Sot and Tha Song Yang districts of Tak Province.

The Cabinet recently approved a proposal for the Finance ministry to advance the fund to the Army before receiving reimbursement from the Burmese Government, he said. The fund has already been approved in principle by a Thai-Burmese joint Coordinating Committee after the two sides inspected damage caused by the fighting.

Two villagers were reportedly killed while ten people were seriously wounded. Many houses were burnt down when Burmese troops intruded into Thai territory in September last year, the source said.

The meeting next Wednesday will be chaired by Third Army Commander Lt-Gen Phairot Chantha-urai.

New Air Route Between Chiang Mai, Mandalay

BK1910034990 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Oct 90 p 18

[Text] Lanna Air Tours of Bangkok has operated for the first time a charter programme between Chiang Mai, Pagan—the most famous archaeological site in Burma—and Mandalay, Burma's cultural capital. The test flight took place on October 13-14.

It opened the air route Chiang Mai/Pagan via Mandalay with the full clearance of the relevant authorities of Thailand and Myanmar [Burma]. Eighteen passengers took the new route on board the Bangkok Airways aircraft chartered by Lanna Air Tours. Lanna Air Tours is a new joint venture between Diethelm Travel and Asia Voyages Group.

'Regret' Over Israeli Action; Visas Relaxed

BK2010041090 Bangkok THE NATION in English 20 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] The Thai Government yesterday expressed regret over the killing of 19 Palestinians at Temple Mount in Jerusalem. "The Thai Government does not agree with the use of force to quell such disturbances, leading to the loss of innocent lives," the government's statement said.

The United Nations Security Council voted unanimously on Oct 13 to condemn the killings, with the United States voting in favour of the resolution in Washington's rare departure from the usual American practice of defending Israel from censure in the council.

The Bangkok's statement also lauded UN efforts to resolve the situation, which many feared would weaken the fragile U.S.-led coalition against Iraq. "The Thai Government supports the efforts of the United Nations to resolve the situation and hopes that the conflicting parties would cooperate with the United Nations to find a speedy solution which would be a step towards the amelioration of the situation in the region," it said.

The Foreign Ministry yesterday announced a relaxation of visa issuance rules for East Europeans. The change was prompted by the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe. The ministry said it will authjorize Thai ambassadors in the Soviet Union, Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia to issue visas for a 90-day stay in Thailand. The current system requiring the ministry to screen visa requests will be scrapped.

Troops Dispatched To Contain 'Bandits' in South

BK2010050590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 20 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] Two companies of infantry troops from the 4th Army Region headquarters in Nakhon Si Thammarat have been dispatched to Yala and Narathiwat Provinces to crack down on southern bandits. The troop reinforcements are stationed in Cha Nae District of Narathiwat and Yaha District of Yala.

An informed military source said Cha Nae District had long been used as a conduit through which the bandits move to Si Sakhon, Ra Ngae and Sukhiri districts of Narathiwat.

Meanwhile, it was reported the government had allocated a 367 million baht budget for the implementation of 15 development projects in Yala, Pattani, Narathiwat and Satun.

A total of 103.5 million baht will go to Pattani for road construction, expansion of the telephone network and the setting up of a drug rehabilitation centre; 410 million baht to Yala for road and telephone network expansion and a Thai-language education programme; 114 million baht to Narathiwat and 102 million baht to Satun for road construction and telephone service expansion.

Chatchai Likely To Hike Oil Prices on Return

BK2210013790 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan is expected to increase the oil price on his return from Europe tomorrow, Government spokesman Suwit Yotmani said yesterday.

Details of the new price rise have already been worked out by the National Energy Policy Committee, Mr Suwit said. "How much the price will increase, when and how will be decided when the Prime Minister returns." The spokesman said the Gulf crisis means the price of crude oil is expected to rise further.

The retail oil price in Thailand is still much lower than in neighbouring countries states, such as Malaysia and Singapore.

The Government could still continue to subsidise the oil price to allow local consumers to buy petrol at low prices but this would not help peg prices of goods. The Government, therefore, has to bring local oil rates to a realistic level, but in a way that affects people least, Mr Suwit said.

The Prime Minister is expected to address a press conference after his return from Europe to publicise the Government's achievements over the past two years in office, he said.

Vietnam

VNA Reports on Minister's New York Activities

BK2210094890 Hanoi VNA in English 0719 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 22—Nguyen Co Thach, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, while in New York for the 45th UN General Assembly session from early October, had working sessions with Antoine Blanca, director general for Development and International Economic Cooperation, and William H. Draper, director general of the United Nations Development Programme.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach expressed thanks to the United Nations for its support and assistance to Vietnam's construction and development. He also expressed his wish for the broadening of the UN's assistance to and its cooperation with Vietnam.

He conferred with Sergio C. Trinadade, assistant secretary general and executive director, and Baehr, chief of the external department of the UN Center for Science and Technology for Development, on Vietnam's social and economic situation and its scientific and technical development. He wished that the cooperation between Vietnam and the center be further strengthened. The center's specialists highly valued Vietnam's current process of the renovation and expressed their desire to make concrete contributions to Vietnam's scientific and technical development.

The foreign minister met with former Secretaries of State H. Kissinger and C. Vance, former Senator D. Clark, former U.S. Ambassador Sullivan, former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs R. Holbrook, business billionaire R. Perot, representatives of the Boeing Manufacturing Company and the Interact Company, and mass media workers. The two sides discussed matters of common concern including the Cambodia issue, prospect for a Southeast Asia of peace, stability and development, humanitarian issues in the framework of the American-Vietnamese relations and prospects for future economic cooperation between the two countries.

In those meetings, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach spoke of Vietnam's achievements in the socioeconomic renovation over the past nearly four years. He reaffirmed that Vietnam would continue its process of renovation in spite of many difficulties.

In his meetings with Ms. Judith L. Ladinsky, president of the U.S. Committee for Scientific Cooperation with Vietnam; R. Muller, chairman of the Vietnam Veterans of America; McAuliffe, president of the U.S.-Indochina Reconciliation Project; and Ms. Merle Ratner, president of the Committee in Solidarity With Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, Nguyen Co Thach expressed sincere thanks to the American people for their valuable support to the Vietnamese people in the struggle for national salvation in the past and in national development at present. "Their support has contributed to consolidating and developing mutual understanding between the two countries," he noted.

Minister Says U.S. Ties Rest on Cambodia Pact

BK2110071590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] On 19 October, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, who was visiting New York, granted an interview to the UN-based KYODO correspondent on issues relating to U.S.-Vietnamese and Sino-Vietnamese relations, the Cambodian question, and his forthcoming visit to Tokyo.

Answering a question on the prospects for U.S.-Vietnamese relations following his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in New York, Minister Nguyen Co Thach said: Both sides have resolved to push forward normalization of bilateral relations in the interests of the peoples of Vietnam and the United States and for peace in Southeast Asia. Both sides agreed that the normalization process will take place immediately after the Paris agreement on Cambodia is signed, which may materialize late this year or early next year.

Minister Meets U.S. Businessmen in New York

BK2210121190 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 22 Oct 90

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach received in New York last Friday representatives of the U.S.-Vietnam Commission Task Force, an organization comprising many U.S. economic corporations set up in 1989.

At the reception, Minister Nguyen Co Thach informed them of the initial results of the renovation in Vietnam, his recent visit to Washington, and other outstanding issues in the relations between Vietnam and the USA, including the missing in action issue.

Mr. Thach further said that at present, a number of foreign companies have done business with Vietnam. Though the U.S.-Vietnam relations have not yet been normalized, many American companies came to Vietnam to study the possibility of doing business with Vietnam.

The Vietnamese foreign minister welcomed this positive development.

PRC Reportedly Agrees To Normalize Relations

OW2010085190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0832 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] New York, Oct. 20 KYODO—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said Saturday that party chiefs of Vietnam and China have agreed on the process of normalization of bilateral relations.

Thach, who visits Japan beginning on Monday, said in a written answer to KYODO News Service that Vietnam's Communist Party General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh and his Chinese counterpart Jiang Zemin reached the accord in a secret meeting in southern China in early September. "There is no more shelling across the border and now more rice, coal, bicycles, sewing machines, apples are crossing the border," he said. "There will be exchange of visits of high-ranking officials. I hope that I could visit Beijing in the future," he added.

Vietnam and the United States are determined to go ahead for normalization and have agreed "the process of normalization will follow immediately after the signature of the agreement on Cambodia which could be realized at the end of this year or in the beginning of next year," Thach said.

The two countries agreed to set up a U.S. office in Hanoi to gather information about some 1,700 Americans still listed as missing in action during the Vietnam war, he said. Thach met U.S. Secretary of State James Baker here on September 29 and special American envoy Gen. [General] John Vessey in Washington on October 17.

The Vietnamese foreign minister said he hopes to exchange views on bilateral relations, Cambodia and cooperation among Asian-Pacific countries and meet as many leaders as possible while he is in Japan. "Japan has promised to resume the economic assistance to Vietnam after the withdrawal of Vietnam forces (from Cambodia). Vietnam has done it. Now it is the turn of Japan to keep its word," he said. Japan suspended loans to Hanoi following Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia in December 1978.

Further on Nguyen Co Thach Visit to Washington

BK1910122890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] As we have already reported, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach paid a visit to Washington on 17 October at the invitation of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. He was accompanied by Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang, head of the Vietnamese permanent representation at the United Nations, and a number of other officials. This is the first visit to the U.S. capital by the highest ranking Vietnamese official to date.

No sooner had he arrived in Washington than Minister Nguyen Co Thach held talks with General John Vessey, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and special envoy of the U.S. President on the question of Americans Missing In Action [MIAs] during the Vietnam War.

In a joint press conference with Secretary Baker, Minister Nguyen Co Thach, answering questions from press, radio, and television correspondents, said: The talks have achieved fine results. The two sides will set up a new joint group of specialists within the next few weeks.

Comrade Nguyen Co Thach affirmed that there were no American survivors in Vietnam and welcomed the U.S. side, including the families of Americans Missing In Action, to visit Vietnam to conduct searches and verify information about Americans Missing In Action during the Vietnam War.

On the afternoon of 17 October, Minister Nguyen Co Thach had a series a meetings and exchanges of views with the U.S. Senate and House Foreign Relations Committees and with the House Task Force in charge of the MIA issue on bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern. The majority of the U.S. officials, having a chance to meet Minister Nguyen Co Thach, highly appreciated the significance of his visit and expressed their hopes that normalization of bilateral relations would take place soon in the interests of both countries.

VNA on Envoy Rejecting Japanese Reports

BK2110160690 Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 21—Vietnamese Ambassador to Japan Vo Van Sung yesterday rejected as 'sheer fabrications' reports by Japanese papers on Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's October 17 statement regarding China, Japan and the U.S. troop withdrawal from Asia.

On October 18, a number of Japanese papers including the SANKEI SHIMBUN quoted Nguyen Co Thach as saying during his talks in Washington with U.S. General (rtd) John Vessey, special envoy of U.S. President G. Bush, and members of the Foreign Relations Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives that 'the Vietnamese Government hopes that the United States will not withdraw militarily from Asia. If the U.S. troops withdraw, Asia will be threatened by China and Japan.'

In his statement released in Tokyo on October 20, Ambassador Vo Van Sung reaffirmed that all reports on Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's October 17 statement regarding Japan, China and the U.S. troop pullout from Asia are sheer fabrications.

VNA Notes AP Report on Thach-Vessey Meeting

BK2110073690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] According to VNA, the U.S. news agency AP has reported on results of the 17 October meeting in Washington between General John Vessey, the U.S. President's special envoy, and Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach.

The AP report said: The United States amd Vietnam have reached agreement on new levels of cooperation in their efforts aimed at gathering information on American soldiers still considered as missing-in-action during the Vietnam War. According to General Vessey, the two sides agreed on technical cooperation in organizing joint investigations as well as on various methods to be used in information gathering and returning remains of U.S. servicemen. The two sides will set up a joint team to study the special features of new forms of cooperation.

Economics, Cambodia Likely To Be Visit's Focus

BK2010031390 Hong Kong AFP in English 0215 GMT 20 Oct 90

[By Leo Dobbs]

[Text] Hanoi, Oct 20 (AFP)—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach arrives Monday in Tokyo on an official visit likely to focus on economic matters and the possibility of Japan renewing aid to Hanoi. The Cambodian conflict is also expected to figure in his talks with top leaders in Tokyo, Japanese Embassy officials said here.

Mr. Thach, the most senior Vietnamese leader to make an official visit to the East Asian economic powerhouse, is to stop in Japan for six days on his way home from a fruitful trip to the United States, where he held a landmark meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker—the highest level contact of its kind since 1975.

Japan is Vietnam's second largest trading partner after the Soviet Union but has suspended aid to Hanoi since 1979, when Vietnamese troops ousted the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge and installed a new government in Cambodia.

The veteran and polished Vietnamese diplomat is scheduled to meet his Japanese counterpart Taro Nakayama, Prime Minister Toshio Kaifu and Emperor Akihito as well as other officials, ruling party members and former Premier Noboru Takeshita, the embassy officials said. Japanese observers here said the talks would focus on economic matters with one saying Mr. Thach would probably seek agreements in technical, scientific and cultural fields as well as calling on Tokyo to end its suspension of aid.

The embassy officials, however, said no agreements were set to be signed and Japanese and other foreign experts agreed there was little chance of the suspension being lifted. "Japan is unwilling to make agreements as it thinks it is too soon," said one expert.

The West's main reason for maintaining the aid suspension— the Vietnamese military presence in Cambodia—ended in September last year when Hanoi pulled out its troops, observers noted. Most diplomats accept that Vietnamese troops have left Cambodia although they say that several thousand may remain as advisors to the Phnom Penh forces.

Japan was likely to hold off offering aid to poverty-stricken but resource-rich Vietnam during Mr. Thach's visit for fear of annoying the United States which clamped a total trade and aid embargo on Hanoi at the end of the Vietnam war in 1975, analysts said. It recently extended the embargo for another year, though Mr. Baker reportedly indicated during his meeting in New York with Mr. Thach that it could be lifted soon. One analyst said it was "unlikely to go another year."

"The Japanese will follow in the wake of the Americans, because the American market is the most important to them," said another diplomat who also stressed that there "has to be a general agreement on resumption of aid" by the countries that cut these links with Vietnam in 1979. He also believed that Japan would not step in until the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank were in a position to free more funds for Vietnam.

A Japanese businessman here, reflecting the sentiments of many of his colleagues, said he hoped the "visit will further encourage future bilateral trade" in a country boasting a market of 65 million people, cheap labour and vast natural resources. "We welcome his visit because it will encourage our activities here," he said, estimating Japan's sales to Vietnam last year at 23.4 billion yen (187 million dollars) and its imports at 47.9 billion (383 million dollars) last year. "This year, maybe, we shall see a marked increase," he said.

Japan imports mainly marine and agricultural products and raw materials, including oil, and exports vehicles, machinery, electronic goods and other manufactured products to Vietnam.

Cambodia will also be discussed during Mr. Thach's trip but probably only in the form of an exchange of views, one source said. Tokyo hosted a meeting of the warring factions in June in a bid to break the deadlock over the conflict and that forum could have accelerated Mr. Thach's visit to Japan, analysts said.

Official on Foreign Country Labor Cooperation

BK2010110990 Hanoi VNA in English 0711 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 20—"Vietam will continue broadening its labour cooperation with other countries in the use of skilled Vietnamese personnel", said Vu Lam Thoi, head of the Department for Labour Cooperation With Foreign Countries under the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Welfare.

Over the past ten years, more than 240,000 Vietnamese workers have worked in the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria under labour cooperation contracts whose terms vary from four to six years. Some 482 million non-convertible rubles have been earned to pay debts and import consumer goods.

For the Vietnamese workers, they have sent home 720 billion Vietnamese dong worth of commodities (about 120 million U.S. dollars).

At present there are 180,000 Vietnamese workers in Eastern Europe including 75,000 in the Soviet Union, 50,000 in Germany, 20,000 in Bulgaria and 30,000 in the Federal Republic of Czech and Slovakia.

With regard to Vietnamese workers who are to repartriate before the expiry of their contracts, they will be compensated at least 3,000 D.M., 70 percent of their quarterly salary and home-bound fares. From 17,000 to 20,000 Vietnamese workers will be repatriated from Germany this year before the expiry of their labour contracts.

Labor Cooperation Accord Signed With CSFR

BK2010111090 Hanoi VNA in English 0716 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 20—A protocol on labour cooperation was signed here on October 17-18 by Vietnamese Minister of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs Tran Dinh Hoan and Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of the Federal Republic of Czech and Slovakia [FRCS] Petr Miller.

The protocol says that the two countries will continue to implement the agreement of November 27, 1980 on labour cooperation and the protocol of April 6, 1989 reached by the two governments. The repatriation of Vietnamese workers from the FRCS who have fulfilled their labour contracts will be settled by the host Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and the Vietnamese Embassy in Prague.

Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Nguyen Khanh cordially received here on Oct. 18 Minister Petr Miller and his party.

The FRCS delegation left here yesterday on a visit to Ho Chi Minh City.

Delegation Visits DPRK, Observes Anniversary

BK2010163890 Hanoi VNA in English 1521 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 20—A Vietnamese party delegation led by Hoang Bich Son, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and head of the central Party's External Relations Commission, has visited the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and attended celebrations for the 45th anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK].

During its stay in Korea, the delegation had working sessions with Kim Yong- sun, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and toured a number of economic and cultural establishments in Pyongyang.

The Vietnamese guests were received on Oct. 14 by Yi Chong-ok, Politburo member of the WPK Central Committee, and vice-president of the DPRK.

Ceremony Held To Commemorate Daily's Anniversary

BK2210074390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Report on 20 October ceremony held in Hanoi by army daily QUAN DOI NHAN DAN to commemorate its 40th anniversary—portion recorded]

[Summary] This morning cadres and personnel of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN Daily held a solemn ceremony to commemorate its 40th anniversary on 20 October and to receive the Ho Chi Minh Order granted by our party and state.

"Attending this solemn ceremony were General Le Duc Anh, Political Bureau member and defense minister; Senior Lieutenant General [Lt. Gen.] Nguyen Nam Khanh, deputy chief of the General Political Department of the Vietnamese People's Army [VPA]; Tran Hoan, minister of culture, information, sport and tourism; Pham Quang, general secretary of Vietnam Journalists' Association, and large numbers of representatives from agencies of the Defense Ministry, the joint general staff, armed services and branches, army corps, military regions and VPA's institutes; and representatives of central agencies, committees and sectors; literature and art associations; and central and Hanoi newspapers."

In a solemn and dignified atmosphere, the participants observed a minute's silence to commemorate fallen heroes of the army daily over the past 40 years. Colonel Phong Hai, the daily's editor-in-chief read a report on the growth and achievements of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN over the past 40 years. He stressed that since the sixth party congress, the daily has emphasized propaganda to enhance the awareness and revolutionary vigilance of cadres, combatants and people. This was also to mobilize military and non-military writers to support the party's lines or renovation and resolutely protect revolutionary gains.

Senior Lt. Gen. Nguyen Nam Khanh read a letter from the Council of Ministers chairman addressing all cadres and personnel of the daily on the occasion. After commending the daily for its achievements over the past 40 years, the chairman clearly specified that the army daily "has the duty to cooperate with all the papers throughout the country to conduct propaganda and broadly disseminate the policies and lines of the party and state, to emphasize political stability, and to make everyone adhere to the socialist line and renovation process clearly specified in the sixth party congress resolution and other party resolutions."

On behalf of the party and state, General Le Duc Anh pinned the Ho Chi Minh Order on the traditional banner of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, which was conferred on the daily by our party and state.

Dealing with the current tasks of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, General Le Duc Anh clearly pointed out: [Begin Le Duc Anh recording] "In national construction and defense, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN daily has continually developed its glorious traditions. It has performed well and even much better on the battlefront of ideological struggle in a scientific and persuasive manner. It has outstandingly conducted a propaganda campaign to enable our troops and people to implement two strategic tasks, especially the task of consolidating national defense to protect the fatherland, the party and the socialist regime. All our troops can be proud of their QUAN DOI NHAN DAN daily. Its present contingents of cadres, reporters, workers and combatants can be proud of the earlier generations of comrades and reporters who died on the battlefronts heroically." [end recording]

Dear friends: With great honor and a high sense of responsibility, all the cadres, reporters, editors and other workers of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN are struggling hard to make the daily comprehensively strong and firm to remain worthy of the confidence of the party, state, compatriots and all combatants of our armed forces.

Nguyen Van Linh Speaks

BK1910152590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Report on address by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, during visit to QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the publication of the daily's first issue; date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the publication of the first issue of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh paid a visit to and addressed cadres, correspondents, editors, workers, and employees of the Army daily. The comrade general secretary began his address by highlighting the tradition of 40 years of the building and growth of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN. On behalf of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the party Central Committee and the Military Commission of the party Central Committee, he commended the achievements already recorded by cadres, correspondents, editors, workers, and employees of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN.

After analyzing the present situation of the country and the tasks being imposed on QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, the comrade general secretary clearly pointed out: QUAN DOI NHAN DAN must be a sharp tool for conducting political and ideological work within the armed forces and among the entire people, to enable the entire people and Army to achieve a high unanimity of views with the party's political line; to uphold the will for independence, sovereignty, and creativity; to persevere in the revolutionary objectives and ideal and on the path chosen by Uncle Ho and the party; and to stand ready under any circumstances to fulfill the task of defending the fatherland, the party, the people, socialism, and the correctness of Marxism-Leninism. The army daily, the most reliable political force to defend the party, the state, the people, and socialism, must also be the most steady and steadfast force, must hold fast to policies and principles, have a high sense of organization and discipline, be strongly attached to the people, and vigorously struggle against erroneous and hostile viewpoints.

In the current ideological struggle, a newspaper is the sharpest weapon capable of propagating (?correct) ideology to millions of people. However, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN must aim first of all to serve its readers by ceaselessly renovating the contents and forms of its news reporting in such a way as to make the paper useful as well as exciting and attractive to readers. To this end, the paper must stay close to realities in various units and at the grass roots to report by all means those issues that readers are thinking about and preoccupied with and to help the grass roots resolve difficult problems and impediments. The strength of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN over the past many years lay in the fact that it constantly stayed close to the battlefield and army units and to the soldiers' lives, and that it was able to report on the activities of units stationed in the remotest areas and operating under the most difficult conditions. Due to this strength, the paper has been able to maintain a special ability and style of its own, staying close to its readers and winning their trust and love.

These days, however, the level of the readers, both in the Army and outside, is different from the past. The paper must be further renovated if its prestige is to be protected. Besides its political maturity and seriousness, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN must report realistically on the diversified and multifaceted lives of the people and soldiers. The forms of its reports must be more cheerful, youthful, and lively. The comrade journalists must always keep in mind Uncle Ho's teaching that they should write to make it easy for readers to read, to remember, and to act upon, and that press articles must be clear and simple.

An important requirement is that QUAN DOI NHAN DAN actively participate in carrying out the central tasks of the Army and country and contribute to unceasingly increasing the strength of the armed forces, consolidating the all-people national defense, and successfully implementing the two tasks of defending the fatherland and building the country. The daily should probe deeply to discover, analyze, and introduce new and progressive factors and interesting experiences. Your paper has done this, but your efforts have not yet been profound and systematic enough; and the persuasiveness of your articles has been limited. For this reason, you should draw experience from your past work to improve.

On the other hand, the paper must dare to report on things that are not good, not interesting, and that are detrimental to the nature and tradition of the people's Army and lessen the prestige and strength of the armed forces. It must struggle uncompromisingly against acts that infringe upon the right to mastery of cadres and combatants, laxity in discipline, and violation of the standards, systems, and policies concerning servicemen.

In daily life, there have emerged new factors in many typical localities and units in various spheres of activity. They must be promptly detected before they spread further. The newspaper, however, must also boldly point out those sectors and localities that do not yet concern themselves with national defense and security and do not yet satisfactorily implement the Army rear policy as well as those party cadres and members who do not yet set examples in complying with the law on military service.

We do not fear the weapon of criticism. Through its intensified antinegativism efforts in the press, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN has demonstrated more clearly its skills as a fighter. By increasing the militancy of its pen, the paper has combined its efforts to oppose the bad with its efforts to promote the good, regarding its promotion efforts as the central task. It has praised what is good while criticizing what is bad or negative.

Here I would like to emphasize this point: As QUAN DOI NHAN DAN is a mass-circulation daily owned by the central level, it encompasses a vast readership both inside and outside the Army and both at home and abroad. Therefore, all the writings for praising or blaming, commending or criticizing must be motivated by the constructive ideas of the writers. They must faithfully and objectively reflect the situation and ensure accurate and genuine details.

When writing about negative or positive accounts, it is necessary to clearly define why an article is being written. The writer and the editor concerned must carefully weigh the pros and cons, trying not to leak any secrets for the enemy to exploit and the people to misunderstand. This is the acumen of writing.

To improve the quality of the newspaper, the most important thing is to constantly forge and train the contingent of press workers. Military press workers are praiseworthy in that they often travel to difficult areas and are prepared to face hardship when accompanying soldiers in their unit's traveling formation. But they must definetely be equipped with general and professional knowledge, with occupational skills, and with a capacity to promptly visualize and detect the situation.

It is necessary to enhance the political and ethical qualities of these press workers because they are both fighters and revolutionary journalists. This is an exceptionally important requirement in the current situation.

Press workers must be firm in their class stance and political viewpoint. They should not be illusionary and indecisive nor should they lose their confidence. The more they are in a rigorous and difficult situation, the more they, as fighters, must have firm confidence.

The daily QUAN DOI NHAN DAN and its correspondents as well as the contingent of journalists in our country must help readers strengthen their confidence in the party and the certain victory of socialism.

The renovation undertaking has given rise to many new and complicated issues to resolve on the political, socioeconomic, military, national defense, and security fronts. Journalists must make constant efforts to improve their knowledge and experience so they can keep themselves fully informed of new problems, discover positive elements, and detect negative factors from the very beginning.

The press must be the first to discover new problems, carry out propaganda work, and guide public opinion and the masses in their actions. Each newspaper must be regarded as a cadre because it helps convey the voices of the party and the masses directly to the entire Army, people, and society.

The strength of the press is of particular importance. The role of newspapers and cadres is of great significance. Faced with rich and multifaceted real-life situations, journalists must first of all know how to work out self-imposed orientations in order to defend the truth and resolutely struggle against erroneous thinking and ways of doing things detrimental to the revolutionary cause.

To this end, it is necessary to firmly grasp party standpoints and lines, to stay close to tangible facts of life, and to possess high professionalism. Articles written by authors who are influenced by formalism or who do not take sides—not to mention those articles by authors who deliberately side with wrongdoers or who are motivated by ill-intentions—should not be allowed to reach readers.

Like an army, the strength of the press lies in its very sense of solidarity, organization, and discipline as well as its unanimity of mind and action. The press includes not only professional journalists and the editorial staff but also service providers, publishers, correspondents, collaborators, and even correspondents-turned-readers.

It is necessary for the press to help consolidate the contingent of grass roots correspondents so the latter can carry out information work and at the same time know how to analyze the situation. In this way, they can promptly discover new changes at the grass roots level.

Along with helping them improve their political quality and professionalism, the Ministry of National Defense and the Political General Department must pay attention to ameliorating the Army daily correspondents' living conditions and material bases. In this way, they will have favorable conditions for improving their work performance and score higher and more effective results.

As the daily QUAN DOI NHAN DAN has a large readership both inside and outside the Army, efforts to build and develop it should not rest only with the General Political Department and the Ministry of National Defense. The reason is because the paper serves as the voice of the party Central Committee's Military Commission and the Ministry of National Defense and also the mouthpiece of the entire Army and people in the two strategic tasks, especially the task of defending the fatherland, building an all-people national defense, building the people's armed forces, and carrying out the Army rear policy. The daily QUAN DOI NHAN DAN is an indispensable spiritual food and also a means for political and ideological indoctrination of the party committee echelons, the administration, the military organs at various levels, various localities, sectors, and social organizations and mass societies.

To enable the daily to reach the entire Army and people and readers throughout the country is the duty of both the Army and of various sectors and localities. Given the current high development of information work, you, comrades, must scrupulously think of ways to compete in the struggle to promptly bring accurate information to readers. Whoever offers accurate and adequate information will be able to influence public opinion.

Military press workers must also build a systematic and urgent working attitude. They must be quick to react and be sharp-minded in political struggle. Naturally, modern technology also constitutes an important factor. But first of all, it is necessary to pay attention to readers' need for information. Whatever subjects readers are interested in, the daily must respond accordingly and promptly.

Do Muoi Sends Letter

BK2210084190 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 20 Oct 90

[Text] On 18 October 1990, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi sent a letter to cadres, combatants, personnel, workers, editorial staff and printers of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN daily on the occasion of the daily's 40th anniversary. The full text is as follows:

Dear comrades: On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, 20 October 1950-90, on behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, I cordially convey my best regards and warm wishes to all cadres, combatants, personel, workers, editorial staff and printers of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN daily.

I also would like to send my best regards to the sick and wounded soldiers, the surviving families of fallen heroes, the retirees and transferred editorial staff and printers of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN.

In the past 40 years, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN has made important contributions to propagating and clarifying the lines, viewpoints and policies of the party and state; has peformed well its function as party's voice in the armed forces; and has reflected the views of cadres, combatants and people countrywide.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN has closely followed and vigorously encouraged the heroic struggle of our troops and people on all battlefields throughout the country. It has effectively encouraged our troops and people to fight for national independence, to build and defend the country, establish an all-people national defense and develop the People's Armed Forces.

Since the adoption of the sixth national party congress resolution, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN has made many efforts in the renovation process and has contributed to the struggle on the ideological and anti-negative battlefront, thus receiving the sympathy and praise of the public.

Imbued with respected and beloved Uncle Ho's teachings, press cadres are also revolutionary combatants as the pen and paper are also sharp weapons. In the past 40 years, cadres, reporters and editors of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN have proved to be loyal to the nation's revolutionary cause and have endured all kinds of difficulties, especially of hardship and danger. Many reporters have died on the battlefronts, writing and whipping up combat spirit and in reporting about the country's historic events.

Dear comrades: At present, all our party, people and troops are accelerating the renovation process. This is a matter of survival for the country as it enables our people to win ever greater victories in their socialist construction and defense of the socialist fatherland.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN has the duty of cooperating with all newspapers throughout the country to propagate and disseminate the policies of the party and state, to maintain political stability, and to make everyone adhere to the socialist line and the renovation process as specified by the sixth party congress resolution and other party resolutions.

At the same time, QUAN DOI NHAN DAN has actively conducted propaganda and has helped enhance revolutionary vigilance against every scheme of the imperialist and reactionary forces in the country and abroad that aims to weaken and sabotage the socialist revolution of our people.

As pen-wielding combatants of the ideological battlefront, all cadres, reporters and editors have constantly forged their knowledge of politics and ideology, improved their revolutionary qualities and ethics, raised the professionalism and ability, improved the behavior of revolutionary press workers, and regularly and closely kept in touch with collaborators to enhance the quality and efficiency of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN, trusted and loved by large segments of readers both inside and outside the army, and international friends.

I wish you, comrades, good health and progress in order to score many more achievements in the glorious duty of Uncle Ho's soldiers wielding pens to fight on the ideological battlefront.

Accept here my cordial and determined-to-win salutations.

Aid Given to Voluntary Returning Refugees

BK1910151390 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Oct 90

["Talk of the Week"]

[Text] Dear listeners: Recently, the number of Vietnamese fleeing the country has decreased considerably. This can be attributed to the renovation in Vietnamese economy and politics. Meanwhile, combined efforts between Vietnam and the High Commissioner for Refugees have largely contributed to stopping the flow of refugees. Recently, Vietnam has received more than 4,500 voluntary returnees. But the problem here is not simply receiving the voluntary returnees but to help them stabilize their lives and find jobs.

Only last year, when starting the program of receiving voluntary returnees, Vietnam [words indistinct] of every locality to provide jobs and help these people settle down. Reception committees have been set up in all localities, giving timely help to these people. Those who are handicraftsmen, small traders, or peasants have received benefits to continue their work or change their jobs of their own free will. Among the returnees there are also aged people and people who lost working capacity. Vietnam still ensures them a stable life with judicious policies.

Worthy of note is that over half of the recent returnees were teenagers, people of secondary [words indistinct]. Reception committees of such localities as Haiphong city and Quang Ninh Province have considered the issue to work out a proper solution. Those returnees who want to continue schooling have received help from the administration to go to school. Those who want to work have been recommended to vocational schools or job training centers suited to their capabilities. Haiphong is one of the Vietnamese cities who have, for now, settled the job problem of the voluntary returnees. Besides providing jobs for people of working age, Haiphong has organized two garment-making training courses free of charge for 60 teenagers. Graduates of the first course are all qualified, including 20 graduates with distinction. Mr. (Kinlee Sihower), member of the Hong Kong Legislative Council in charge of the issue of Vietnamese refugees, after visiting the course, expressed his surprise and emotion at the great attention taken by the city's administration to the returned teenagers. He believed that following these solutions by Haiphong as well as Vietnam in general, the issue of voluntary repatriation will be settled.

Over the past years, Vietnam has received more than 4,500 people who had fled the country and now volunteered to return. All of them have been provided with jobs to help stabilize their lives. None of them have attempted to flee again because they have been treated well without any prejudice.

Veteran Association Conference Issues Communique

BK1910163090 Hanoi VNA in English 1525 GMT 19 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 19—The Vietnamese Veterans Association (VVA) has set up its chapters in 44 provinces, cities and special zones in Vietnam, says a communique issued by the conference of the VVA Provisional Executive Committee held in Ho Chi Minh City from October 12-15.

The VVA was founded in late 1989. By the end of August 1990, its membership had risen to 158,850, mostly retired and demobilized officers and noncommissioned officers.

Provisional committees of the VVA municipal and provincial chapters have been elected in 43 localities. Organizations affiliated to the chapters have been set up at 142 rural districts and urban precincts, 1,211 villages and city wards across the country.

The association's main task in to unite all Vietnamese veterans to preserve and enhance the fine traditions of the Vietnam People's Army, protect the veterans' rights and interests in the social life, motivate the veterans to take an active part in national construction and defence, especially the current process of the country's comprehensive renovation, and broaden their ties with war veterans in other countries for the sake of peace and social progress.

Hanoi Ceremony Pays Tribute to Le Duc Tho

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[Text] This morning, a solemn ceremony was held to pay tribute to Comrade Le Duc Tho, advisor to the party Central Committee and former Political Bureau member and secretary of the party Central Committee, who passed away on 13 October 1990.

This morning, the atmosphere in Ba Dinh Conference Hall was mournfully pervaded with sorrowful music and wreaths of flowers. On the ceremonial stand, the party and national flags carried mourning bands with the words "In Deep Mournful Memory of Comrade Le Duc Tho." Thick smoke from scented incense was rising from a copper incense burner. The Gold Star Order awarded by our state to Comrade Le Duc Tho on his 79th birthday and many other orders and medals—the noble awards conferred by our party and state on him—were placed in a purple velvet-covered box.

Comrade Le Duc Tho's corpse lies in a glass coffin. Comrades Nguyen Thanh Binh, Nguyen Duc Tam, Pham The Duyet, Dao Duy Tung and the honor guards stood around the coffin together with Comrade Le Duc Tho's maternal and paternal relatives.

At 0800 sharp, the ceremony to pay tribute to Comrade Le Duc Tho began with the party Central Committee delegation led by General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh coming to lay the wreath bearing the words "In Deep Mournful Memory of Comrade Le Duc Tho." Comrades Nguyen Van Linh, Pham Van Dong, Vo Chi Cong and Do Muoi observed a moment of silence beside the coffin in memory of Comrade Le Duc Tho. Then they circled the coffin to bid farewell to the beloved comrade who had devoted his entire life to the revolutionary cause of the nation. They and some other comrades went on to meet and present their condolences to Comrade Le Duc Tho's surviving family members over the family's loss.

Then came delegations of the National Assembly, the Council of State and the Council of Ministers—led respectively by Comrades Vo Chi Cong, Le Quang Dao, and Do Muoi—which were followed by a delegation of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee led by Comrade Le Quang Dao and its honorary chairman Hoang Quoc Viet; a delegation of the Central Military Commission of the Party Central Committee, led by Comrade Le Duc Anh; a delegation of the Hanoi city party committee and people's committee led by Comrade Pham The Duyet; a delegation of the National Assembly's Nationalities Council led by Comrade Dam Quang Trung; a delegation of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee led by Comrade Ha Quang Du; a delegation of the Vietnam Women's Union led by Comrade Nguyen Thi Dinh; a delegation of the Vietnam Confederation of Workers led by Comrade Nguyen Van Tu; a delegation of the Vietnam Farmers' Association; a delegation of old revolutionaries; a delegation of the Vietnam Veterans Association; and a delegation of the Liaison Committee for Political Prisoners of Con Dao and Son La where Comrade Le Duc Tho had been once detained during the years of his former revolutionary activities. They all paid tribute to Comrade Le Duc Tho.

Paying the last tribute to Comrade Le Duc Tho were also the delegations of various committees and sectors at the central level and from some localities. Also among the tribute-paying delegations this morning was a delegation of the party committee, the people's committee and the Fatherland Front from Ha Nam Ninh Province which was led by Comrade Bui Xuan Son, the provincial party committee secretary; a delegation of the Nam Ninh district party committee and people's committee which was led by Comrade Bui Huy Gia, the district party committee secretary; and a delegation of the people's committee and compatriots of Nam Van village, Nam Ninh district, which was led by Comrade Pham Quy Tao, the village party committee secretary. In paying their last tribute to Comrade Le Duc Tho—the son of their country—all of them recalled countless cherished images of Comrade Le Duc Tho when he returned to visit his native place one day overwhelming them with brotherly and comradely sentiments.

Dear friends, coming to present their condolences to our state and Comrade Le Duc Tho's surviving family in this morning ceremony were also the delegations of many embassies and some international organizations in Hanoi.